The Official Magazine of World Championship Wrestling

Issue 16 June 1996

WCW magazine

I'LL CRUSH HOGAN, SAVAGE & FLAIR.

THE GIANT IN THE HOTSEAT

WCW UNCENSORED IN PICTURES

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Do you all remember the nursery rhyme 'Sugar and Spice and all things nice, that's what little girls are made of.'

Well it certainly doesn't apply in WCW, particularly when you talk about our very own Sugar and Spice, Lethal Liz and Wicked Woman.

As similar as chalk and cheese and as deadly as a nest of vipers, the two of them combine perfectly to ensure that Ric Flair keeps a hold of the WCW title.

You have Elizabeth, with that sickly, butter wouldn't melt in her mouth look, and those fluttering eyelashes, distracting referees who cannot believe such a delicate flower could do wrong.

You have the dusky Woman, whose dark piercing eyes betray the black heart that beats beneath her designer dresses. She isn't afraid to physically get involved in a match to ensure victory for her men.

Whoever said 'Women are the fairer sex,' obviously never met these two and generally couldn't have studied women at all!

There is nothing fair about a woman and if you've ever participated in even a simple game of cards against your mum or your sister, you'll know exactly what I'm talking about.

But back to my point and I do have one, how much longer are valets and managers going to be allowed around ringside during matches? I say we should ban them all, no matter how pretty they are and let matters be settled fairly in the ring ... not by having someone throttled by a stocking or distracted by a glimpse of leg.

Talking of Sugar & Spice also reminded me of the blockbuster movie 'Batman Forever,' as they were the names of the two gorgeous cohorts of Two-Face.

That film has a lot of similarities to WCW at the moment.

The name Two-Face is a perfect way to describe Mr. Ric Flair. Elizabeth and Woman are Sugar and Spice and just like the movie, Ric Flair has formed an unlikely alliance with Kevin Sullivan. As close a match to a real life Riddler that you could ever find.

However, lets step back to reality and Pro-wrestling.

Batman and Robin are fantasy figures who only exist in comic books and on the silver screen. Ric Flair and Kevin Sullivan are all too real and running amok in WCW.

The big question I have is, who is going to step forward from the shadows and save Gotham, I mean WCW from this unholy alliance?

Finally, I would just like to thank all of you who take the time every month to write to me with your opinions, please keep them coming and I'm only sorry I cannot answer each and every one of you personally,
Best Wishes,

Colin Bowman
Editor

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WCW Update

STEPPING OUT

During her stint with Diamond Dallas Page, Kimberly was a quiet, timid manager who would rarely do anything more than clap, smile and wave. She didn't speak, by DDP's command, and interviews were unheard of.

What a difference life is like nowadays for the vivacious Kimberly, the better-half of The Booty Man.

"Yowza! I'm kind of swept off my feet being with The Booty Man. Yep, I've fallen head over heels for him," Kimberly said. "I walked into the gym one day (in March) and saw the most gorgeous, svelte, round, hard masculine booty I had ever seen in my life. He left me speechless and I knew that I just had to get my hands on him."

"It was, of course, The Booty Man."

So, for weeks, Kimberly (she prefers to be called by her name, not The Booty Babe) courted her man, walking out to ringside during several of his matches.

"I'm a lot more loose and enjoying life a heckuva lot more than I was six months ago," Kimberly said. "I was really inhibited being with DDP because he forced me into a place where I had to cower down and be this timid little creature who was always following him around like a little puppy dog. I now have a lot of confidence.

"When I was with Johnny (B. Badd), he helped me get a new lease on life; I cannot deny that and am grateful to him for that. He helped me realize that I'm my own person, that I have to enjoy each and every day because, hey, life is too short. So many people get bogged down in worrying about the future, but, I think you've got to live for the moment. You've gotta enjoy every second on this earth."

And for Kimberly, nothing is more enjoyable than being a proud member of the Hulkamania entourage, along with Booty and "Macho Man" Randy Savage.

"There has never been a better time to be in WCW. I am enjoying every second of it," she said. "I look at life with a sense of humor, and you have to — for life, love and even for wrestling if you can believe that. The Booty Man has a great sense of humor. He loves life, he lives for the moment and he is crazy; that's what I like about him. Randy Savage also is another wild-and-crazy guy who always lives for the moment. And obviously that also goes for the Hulkster."

But what about DDP, we asked?

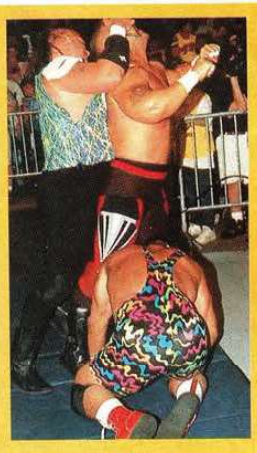
"Well, I will always have feelings for DDP. I feel real sorry for DDP. Let's just leave it at that. That's a painful thing to talk about," she said, without the smile that had basically been planted on her face since the moment this interview started.

She added: "My managerial skills certainly include thoroughness, something I learned from my days with DDP. He always made sure I took care of the small details, and now I'm doing that for The Booty Man. I have great organizational and promotional skills ... and hopefully that will carry us to championship glory."

"After all, wouldn't his booty look extra fine with gold around it?"

In next month's WCW Magazine, Kimberly will discuss her fitness regimen. Don't miss it or the photographs. This is the Booty Babe that you've never seen.

No allies



It wasn't uncommon for bonds of friendship to be formed between wrestlers, even between tag teams.

The Road Warriors have in the past helped out Sting and Lex and even the Steiners. The Nasty Boys once regarded Sting as a close friend and who can ever forget the respect shown by Sting and Lex Luger for the Steiners during that epic clash back in 1991.

Well that was then and this is now. There appears to be no room for friendship as a host of WCW tag teams battle for the ultimate prize.

Sting and Lex are under siege from the Road Warriors and Harlem Heat who also both hate each other. The Steiners have declared war on both the Nasty Boys and the Roadies, while also glancing toward the title. And to cap it all off you have Public Enemy attacking the Nasty Boys at every opportunity. It's chaos.

By the time you read this it could be even worse.

I've just seen the first match-up drawn for Slamboree. Lex Luger and Hawk against Animal and Booker T. At this rate these tag teams may destroy each other and themselves into the bargain.

THE REF'S VIEW

Here is referee Randy Anderson's take on several WCW superstars:

STING: "He's a real down-to-earth guy who I'd trust with my life."

HULK HOGAN: "One of the greatest superstars we'll ever see."

RIC FLAIR: "I like Ric, but at times he's very hard to handle in the ring."

RANDY SAVAGE: "Ooooh yeah, he definitely is one of the greatest of all time."

EARL ROBERT EATON: "For the past 10- or 11-years, he's always been there for me, in the good and the bad."

BOBBY HEENAN: "He just likes to bad-mouth everyone."

RONNY WEST: "When I was a kid, that was the referee who I liked. I've modeled myself after him. He's the one who showed me the ropes."

(For more on referee Anderson, see Mean Gene Okerlund's column on page 37.)

BIRTHDAY CORNER

Birthdays this month include:

May 17 **Alex Wright**
May 19 **Dirty Dick Slater**
May 21 **Chris Benoit**
June 2 **Lex Luger**
June 15 **Brad Armstrong**

NORTH EAST HERE WE COME

In answer to the many request received daily in the WCW offices, World Championship Wrestling will be returning to the north east in late June. At press time provisional dates were being set up in Hartford, CT, Philadelphia, PA, New York, NY and Landover, MD. Keep watching WCW telecasts for more details.

Spanning the Globe

Putting the "world" into World Championship Wrestling, WCW NITRO, the most watched prime time wrestling show in the U.S., launched internationally in early April on TNT in Europe and Asia, bringing WCW action to cable and satellite subscribers in the UK, Germany, China, Japan, India, Australia, Nigeria, Taiwan, Italy, Switzerland, Denmark, Poland, Hungary and Romania. TNT latin America will launch NITRO in the coming months.

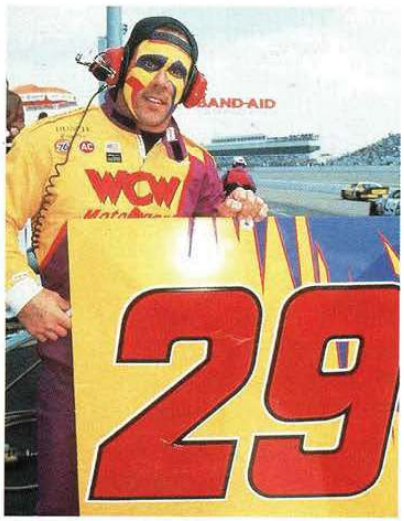
On April 20, WCW NITRO also began airing in Canada.

Sting paints Crook & Chase

Nashville's 'Crook & Chase Show' showed their true colors by painting their faces like Sting during his appearance on their show on March 20. During the nationally syndicated show, Sting put on a playful wrestling exhibition with a spirited Lorriane Crook and Charlie Chase. The entertaining clip appeared on 'E! Talk Soup.'

RACING AHEAD

Sting is proving himself as the number one cheerleader of the #29 WCW race car. Almost every race, Sting can be found working alongside the pit crew as they try and push Steve Grissom toward the Busch Championship. During the event in Richmond, VA., the Diamond Ridge Motorsports pit crew painted their faces in Sting's honor which drew tremendous attention from the media and fans in attendance.



Chaos

You wouldn't have thought it was very difficult to present a couple of awards would you? Unbelievable as it may seem, that is exactly what it is. Thanks to the efforts (or lack of) of two of the major worldwide carrier services, we are once again unable to bring you the pictures of the last remaining award winners in this issue. However fingers crossed ... next time, or at least before you have to vote for 1996's.

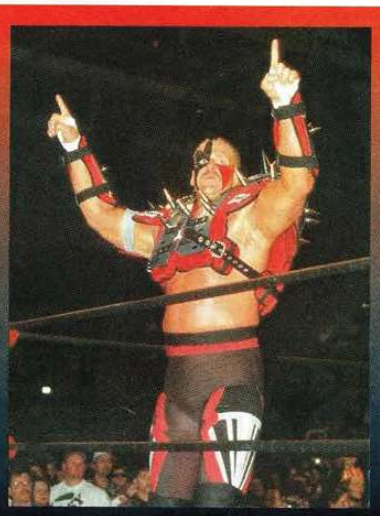
Hometown tale

The Road Warriors were featured April 2, on the front page of the "KidNews" section of the Chicago Tribune, one of America's largest daily newspapers.

The article, titled "Road Warriors see red,' told of their unique haircuts and face-paint.

Quoting Hawk: "When we started wrestling in 1983, no one else in America was using face paint, so we put it on to be different. The colors change regularly, but my design signifies my split personality, while Animal's showcases a spider, which means, 'Don't get caught in our web!'

Hawk also states that each Warrior paints his own face, and that it takes about five minutes.



WORLD WRESTLING PEACE FESTIVAL

Japanese wrestling legend Antonio Inoki has announced that his multi-promotional World Wrestling Peace Festival will take place on June 1, in Los Angeles.

Several WCW superstars have been invited to compete including Ric Flair, Sting, Lex Luger, The Steiners, the Giant, Randy Savage, Eddie Guerrero and Chris Benoit. We'll bring you more news as we get it.

Official WCW Magazine rankings

Champion Ric Flair

1 Konan
2 Lex Luger
3 Macho Man
4 The Giant
5 Eddie Guerrero
6 Booty Man
7 Sting
8 Chris Benoit
9 Arn Anderson
10 Hulk Hogan

Tag Team Champions Sting & Lex Luger

1 Harlem Heat
2 Steiners
3 Road Warriors
4 Nasty Boys
5 Hulk Hogan & Booty Man
6 Public Enemy
7 Faces of Fear
8 American Males
9 Blue Bloods
10 Men at Work

WCW EVENT NEWS

Here are the dates of WCW's upcoming major events:

June 16, 1996 **Great American Bash**
July 7, 1996 **Bash at the Beach**
August 10, 1996 **Hog Wild**
September 15, 1996 **Fall Brawl**
October 27, 1996 **Halloween Havoc**
November 24, 1996 **World War 3**
December 29, 1996 **Starrcade**

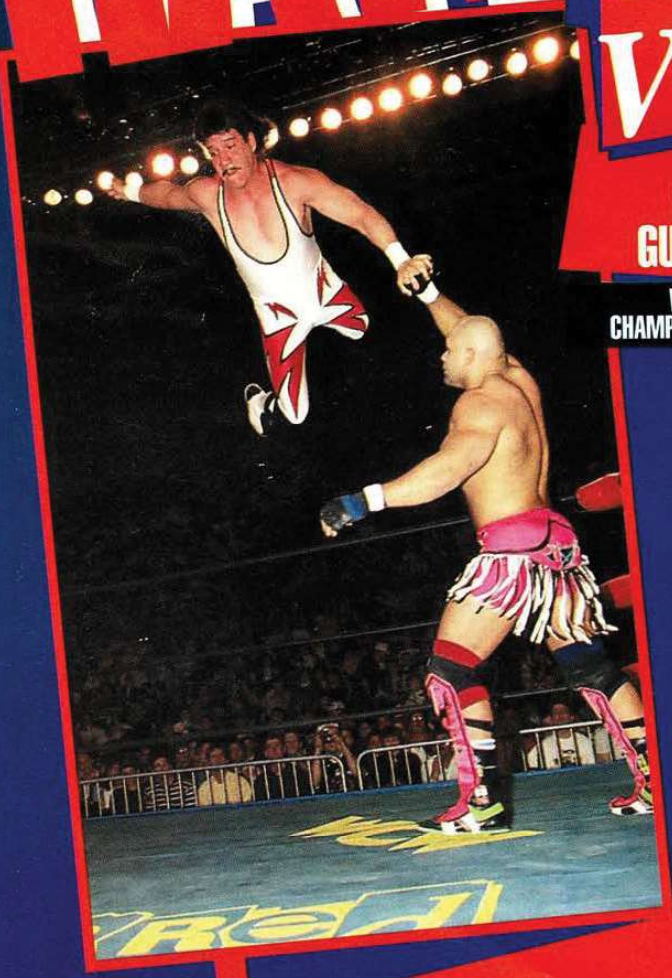
Looking for the kind of wild action that even WCW can't provide during its regular telecasts? Want to see the most incredible and unique cage match ever? Eager to thrill as the world's greatest grapplers engaged in heated battles for supremacy? Look no further! Tupelo, Mississippi will never be the same after the carnage at:

WCW UnCensored

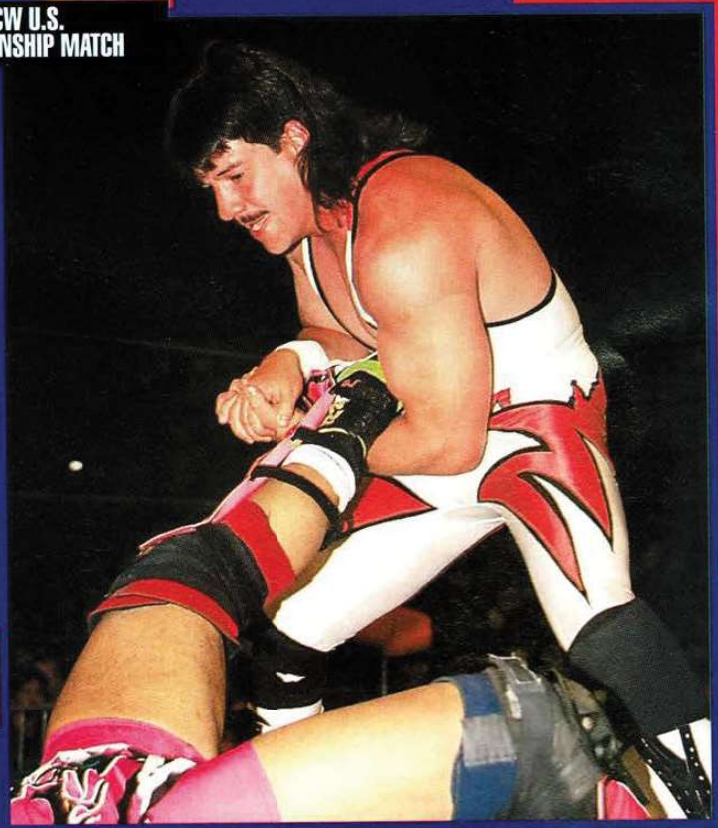
RATE IT R

KONAN VS EDDIE GUERRERO

WCW U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH



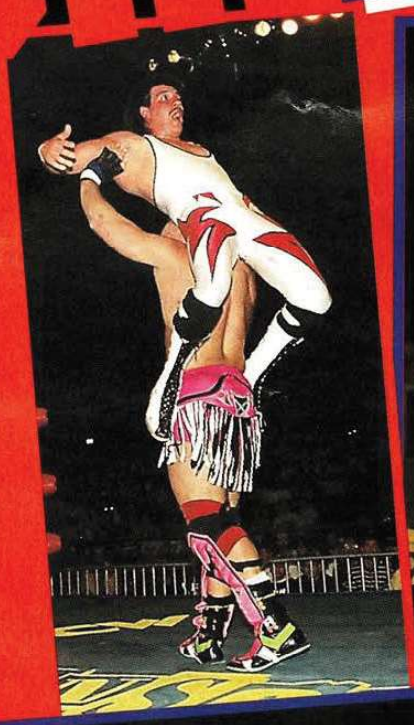
Sure, there was a lot of wild brawling at Uncensored, and that was to be expected. Few fans expected the kind of sheer athletic brilliance that was on display in this amazing contest! Konan, the reigning champion, had the size and power advantage, but that didn't stop the popular Guerrero

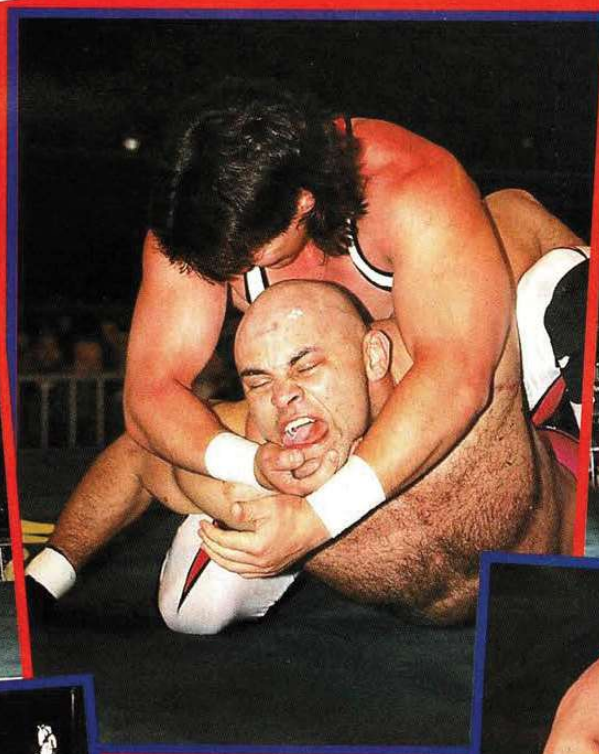


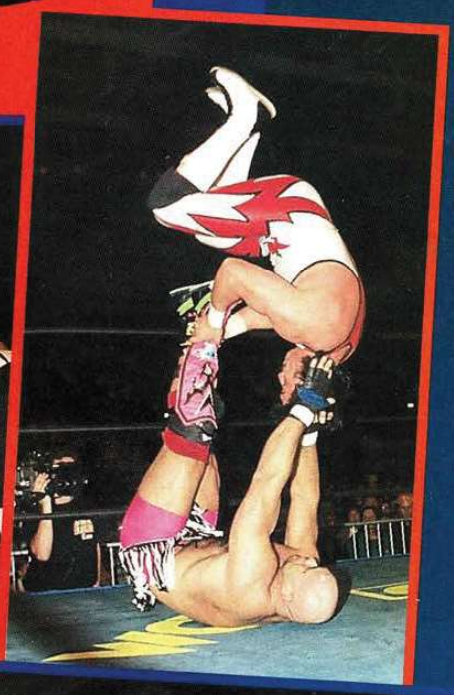
from executing thrilling maneuvers such as a flying headscissors from the top turnbuckle! Not to be outdone, Konan proved he also could perform as a high-flyer, and even astute WCW fans could not pick a winner as the minutes ticked by. Konan scored a disputed pinfall when, as Guerrero tried to leapfrog the Mexican champion, Konan's head caught Eddie in the groin. Could Konan have ducked, or did Guerrero simply mistime his attempt? Either way, you can be sure the WCW Championship Committee will grant Eddie more title shots after his sterling performance in this great opening match!

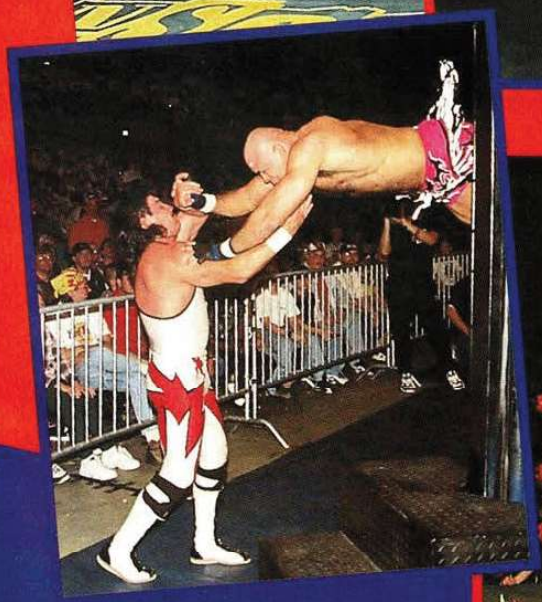
Result: Konan pins Guerrero in 18:28

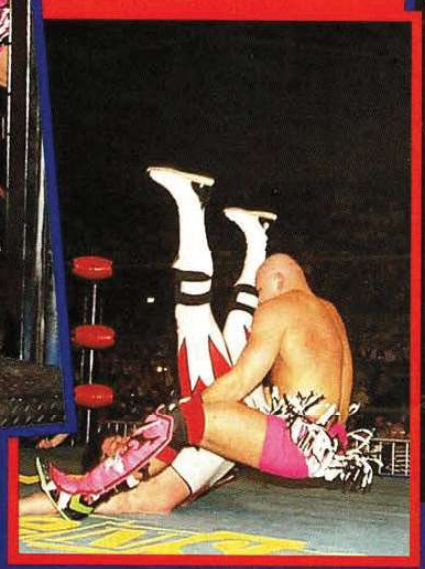
R RIOTOUS

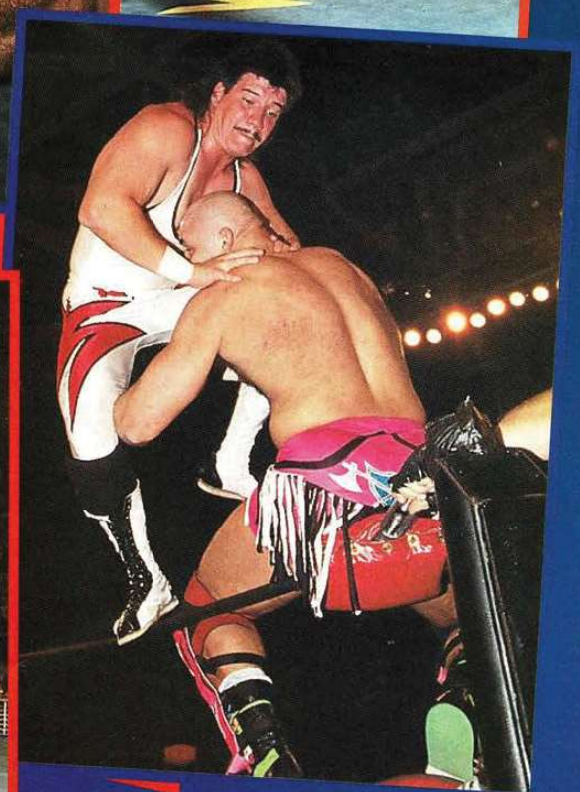




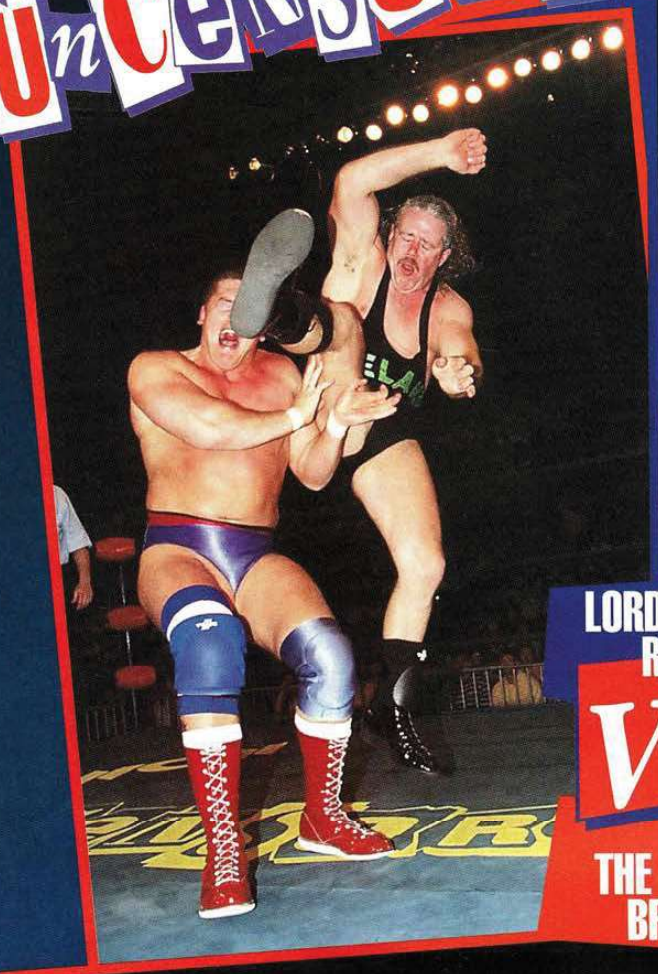


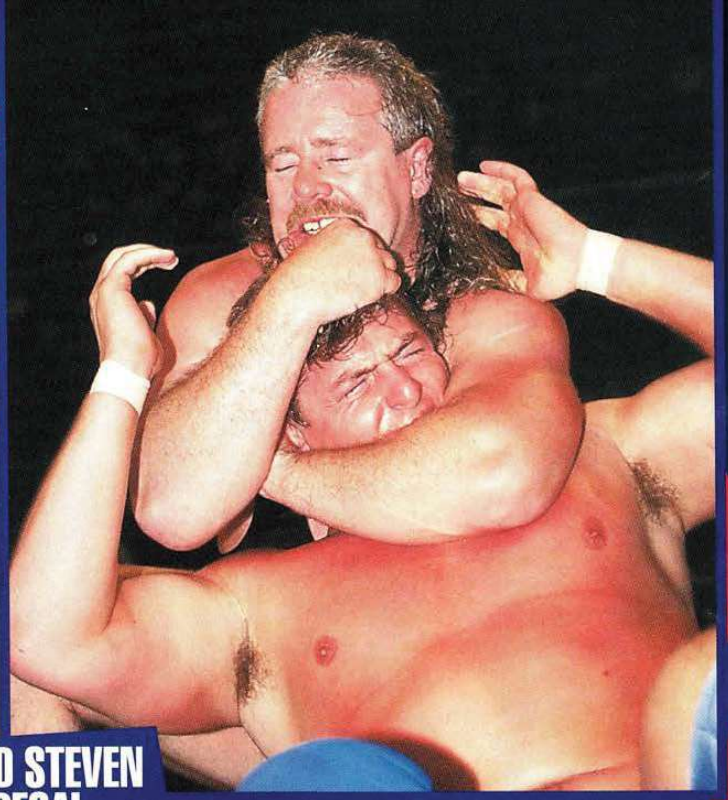






WCW UnCensored

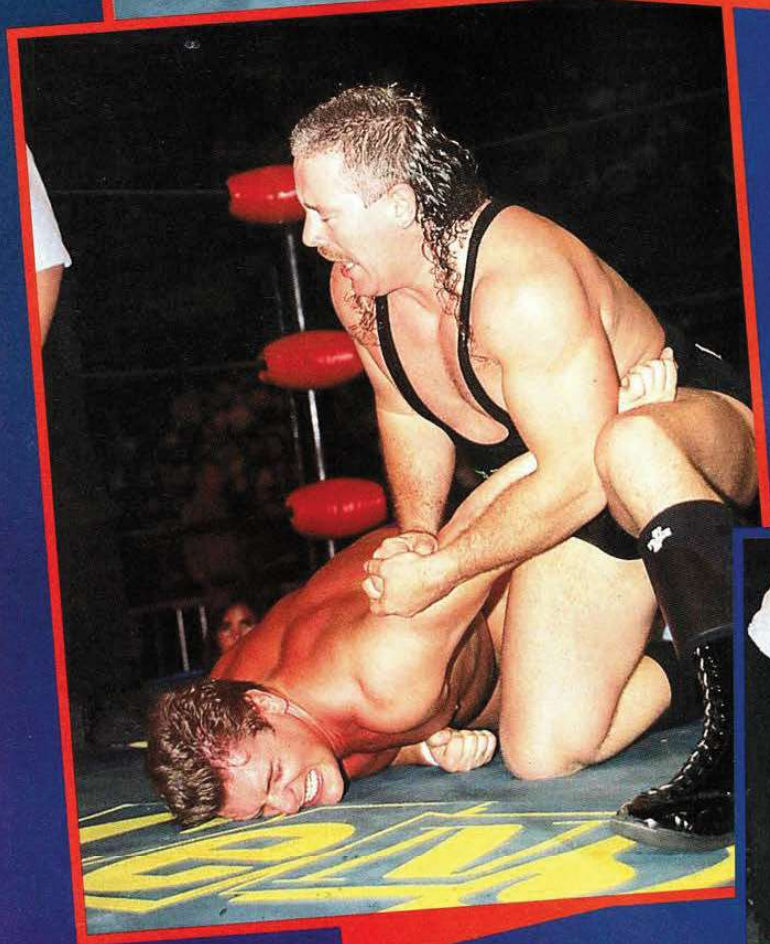


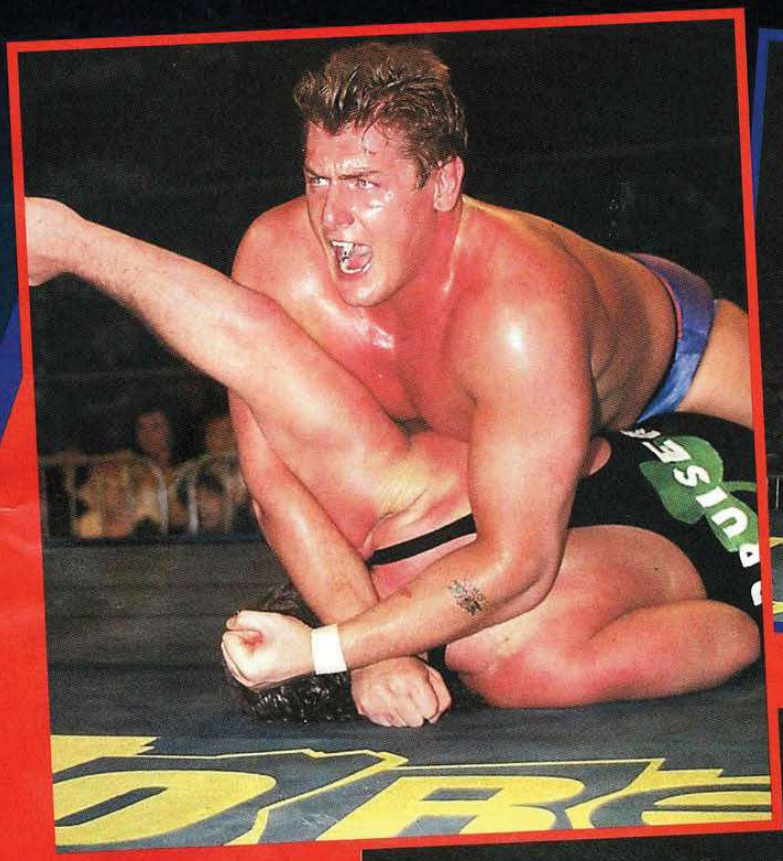


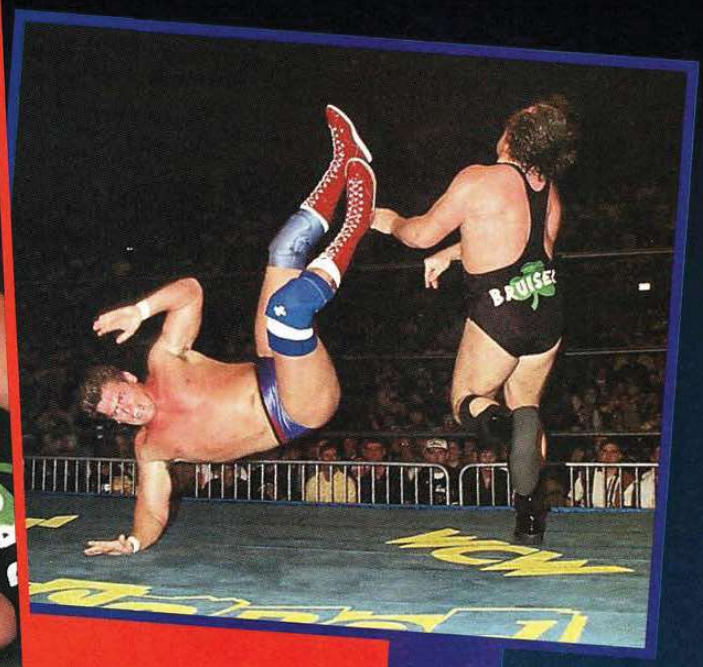
LORD STEVEN REGAL VS THE BELFAST BRUISER

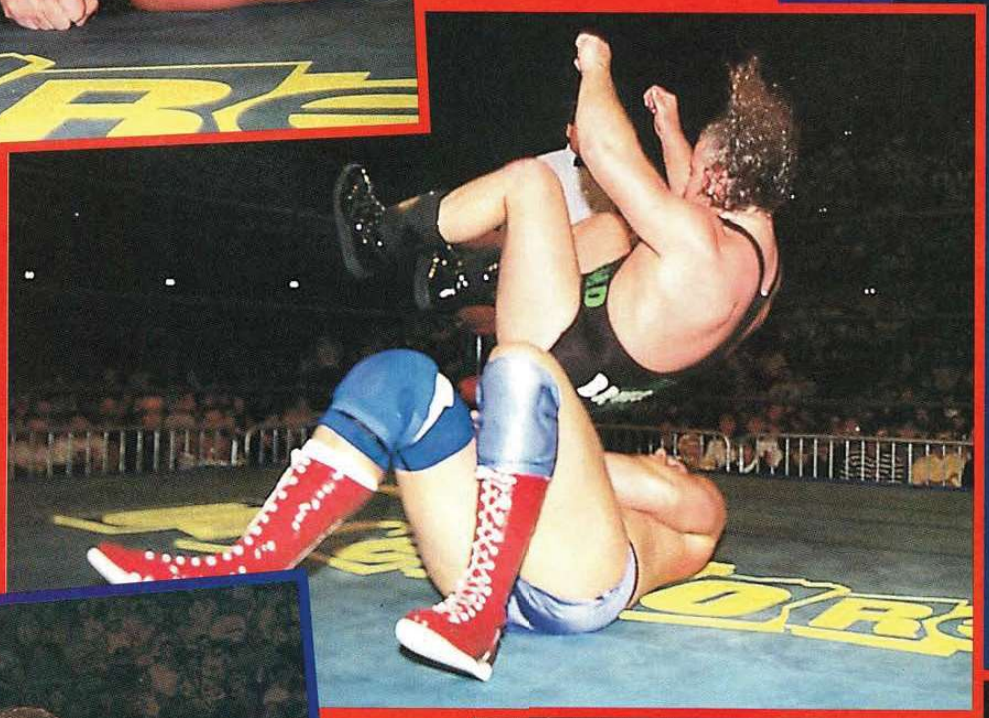
Every punch, every sneer, every kick in this old-fashioned brawl was delivered with horrible intentions! For weeks on WCW television, the Bruiser, Fit Finlay, announced to the world his hatred of Regal and all things British. Obviously, Regal isn't exactly lifting pints with Finlay either, as he nearly decapitated the Bruiser with a brilliant dropkick to the face. The fans sat stunned as these two men tore at each other, and late in the bout, Bruiser apparently broke Regal's nose with a vicious right hand to the face. Moments after that, both Earl Robert Eaton and Squire David Taylor ran out to ringside and began battering an already dazed Bruiser, leaving the referee no choice but to award the bout to him. There will be many more of these brutal bouts before this international feud will end.

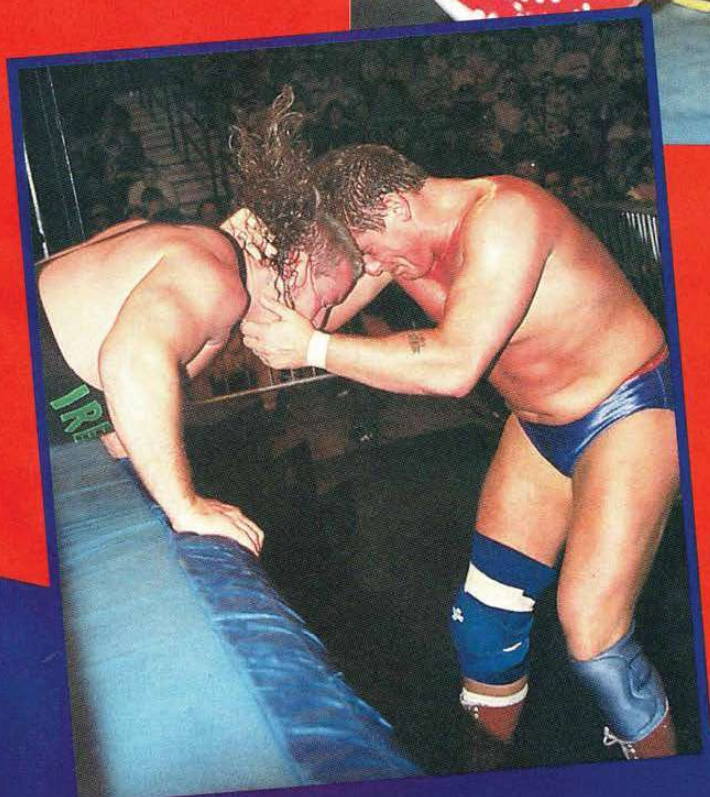
Result: Bruiser defeats Regal by disqualification in 17:35

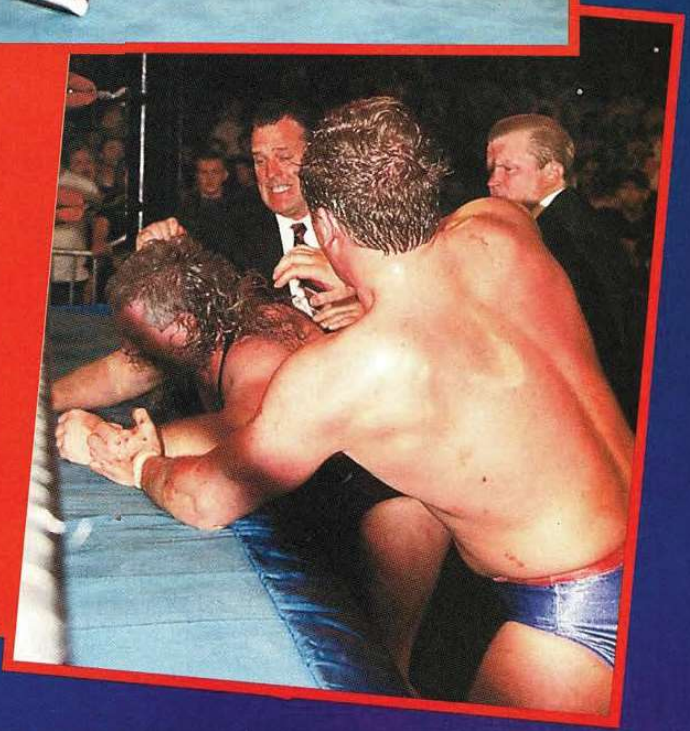


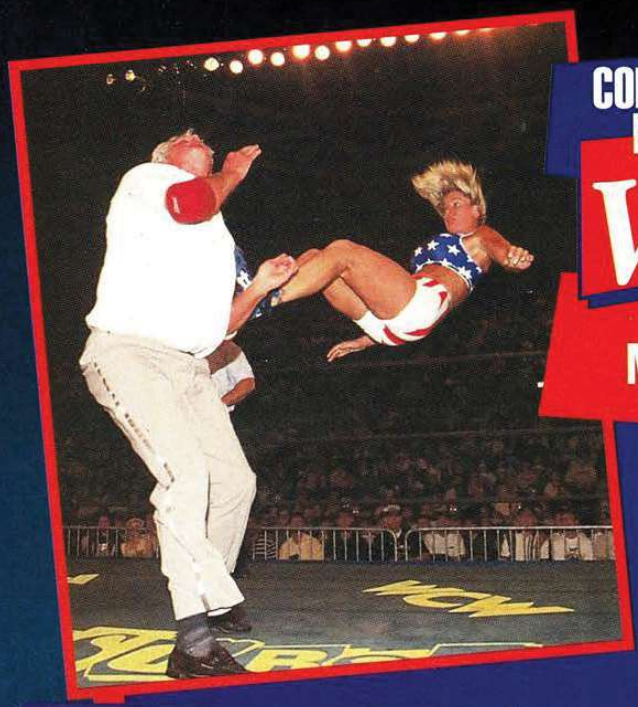








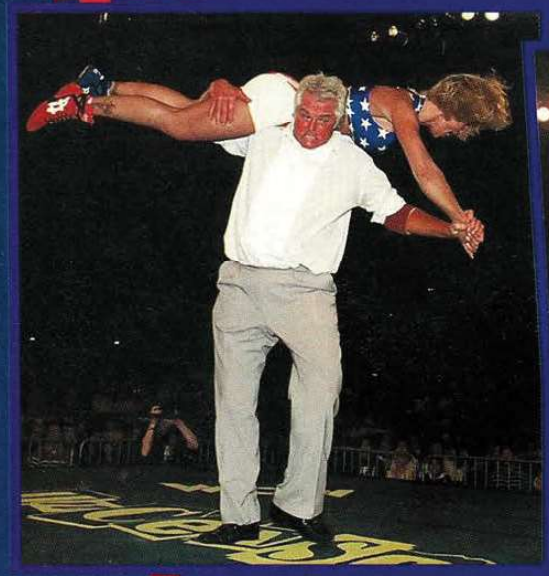


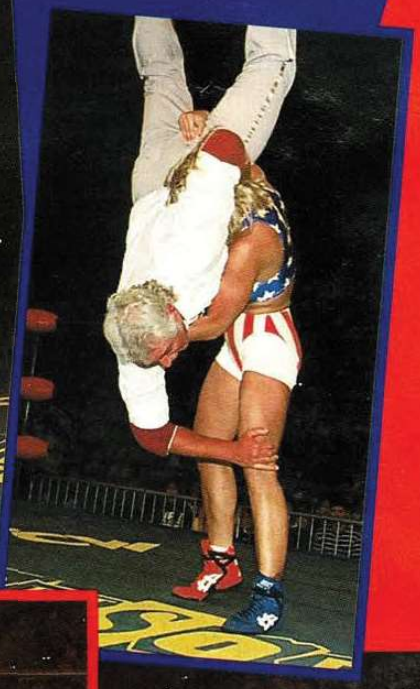


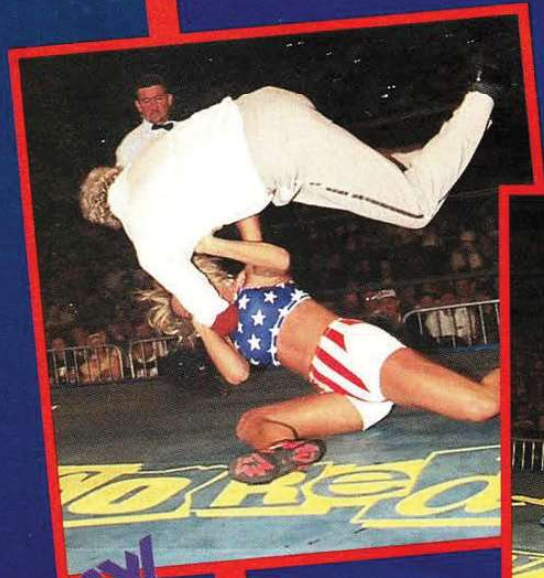
COL. ROBERT PARKER VS MADUSA

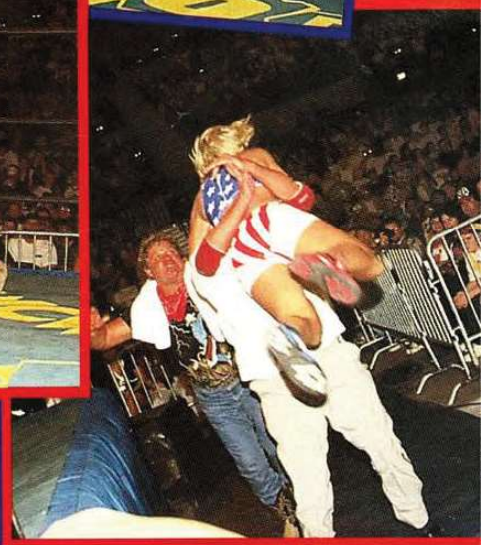
Oh, what a big man you are, Col. Parker! Sure, the record books will show that he defeated the former WWF women's champion in this unique man vs. woman bout, but it won't show how cowardly Parker can be. (Ed's note: It also won't show just how he manged to cheat the scales and have his weight announced as 197-pounds, I'd be interested to know what his other leg weighed) At first, fans were astounded just to see Parker have the nerve to lock up with Madusa, an incredible athlete. In fact, Madusa, despite an obvious size advantage for Parker, was able to monkey-flip him, and even body slam him! Things got so bad that Parker tried to flee, but Dick Slater arrived at ringside to talk Parker back into the ring — and with good reason. Madusa scored with a belly-to-back suplex, but Slater grabbed Madusa's leg from outside and pulled her over. Parker used his weight advantage to score a pinfall that in no way proved "the superiority of the male gender," as Parker claimed!

Result: Parker pinned Madusa in 3:48



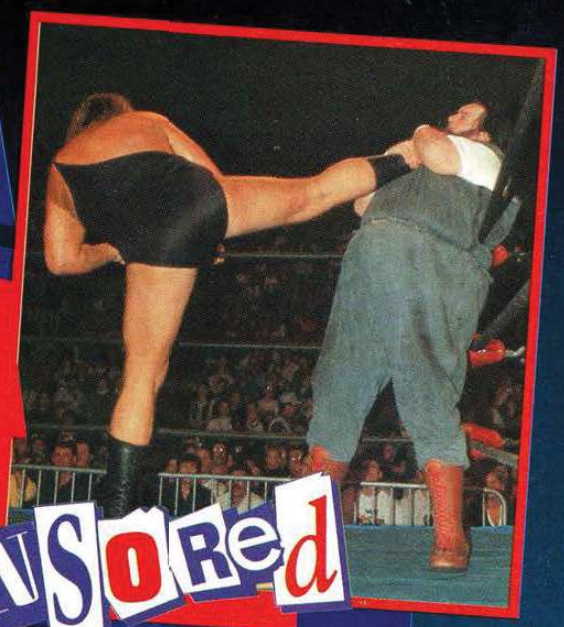






WCW UnCensored

THE GIANT VS LOCH NESS



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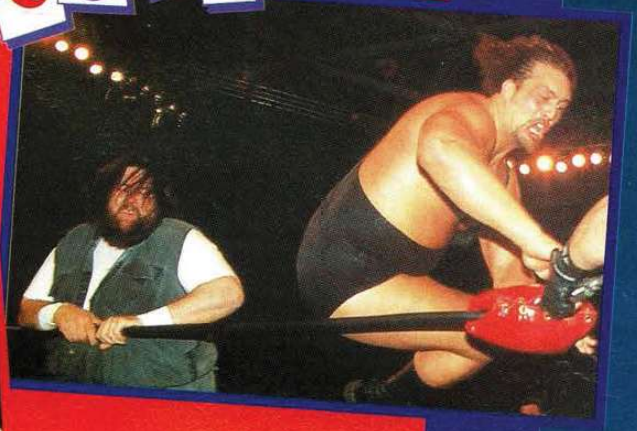
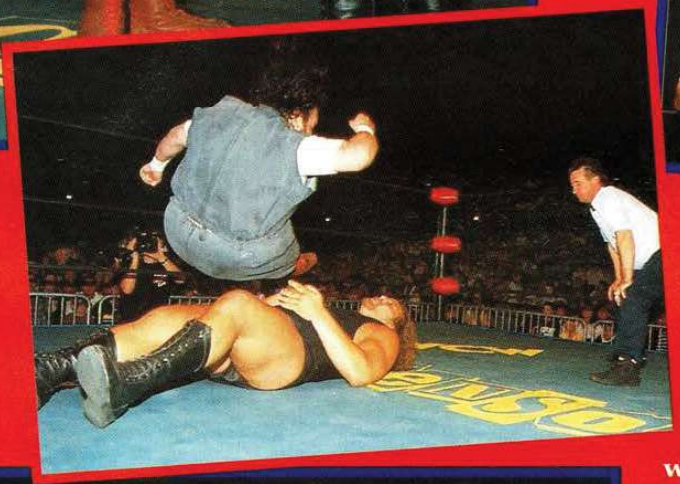
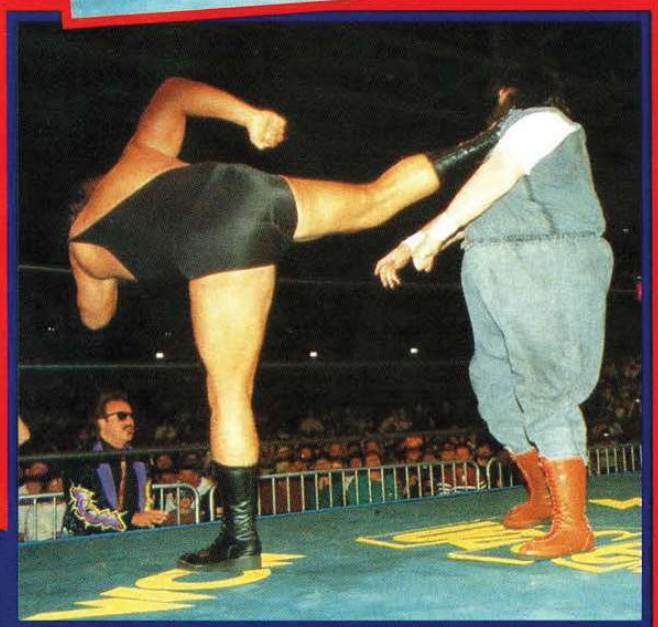
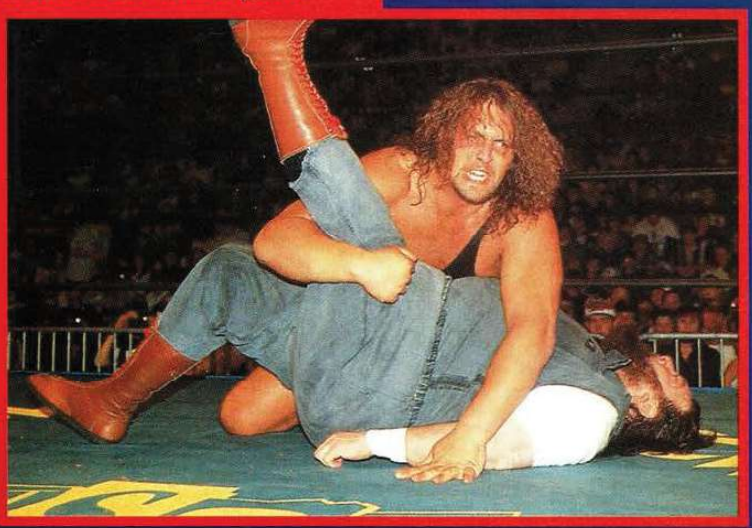




This match didn't last long, but you could pack 1,200 pounds of excitement into this one! The Giant and the now Jimmy Hartless Loch Ness battered each other with fists, and amazingly, Loch Ness seemed to be able to take everything the awesome Giant could dish out. Loch Ness scored with a crushing elbowsmash that almost squashed the Giant, but he was too slow in delivering a follow-up and missed. Then, in a page almost out of Hulkamania, the Giant scored with a kick, followed by a huge leg-drop and pin. Who will the incredible Giant's next conquest be?

Result: The Giant pinned Loch Ness in 1:35

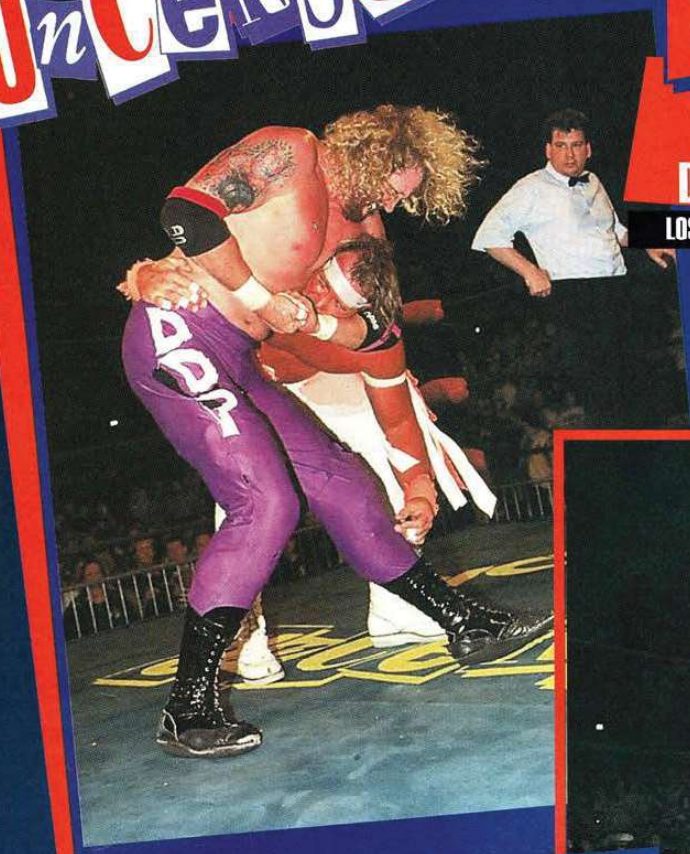




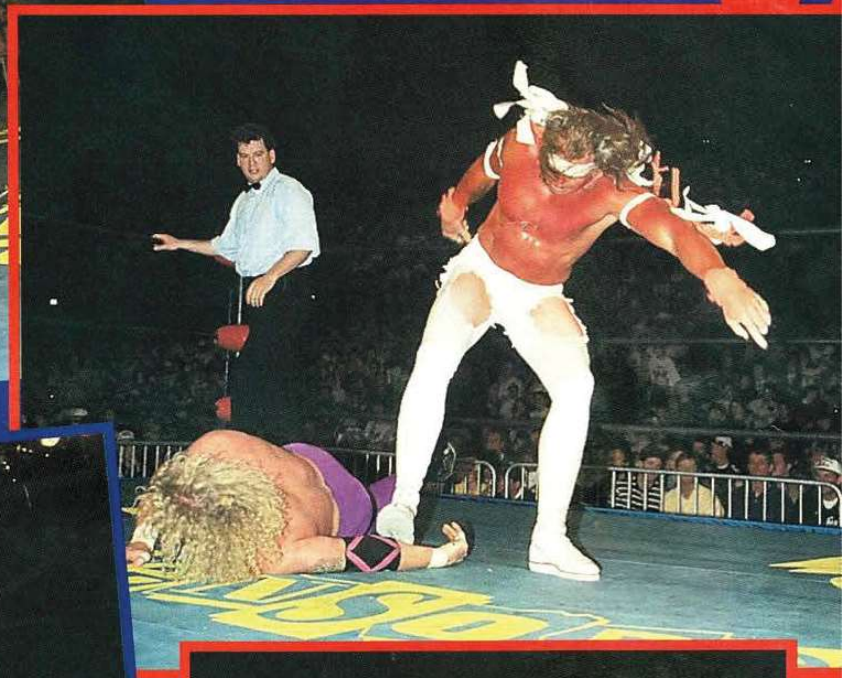
WCW UnCensored

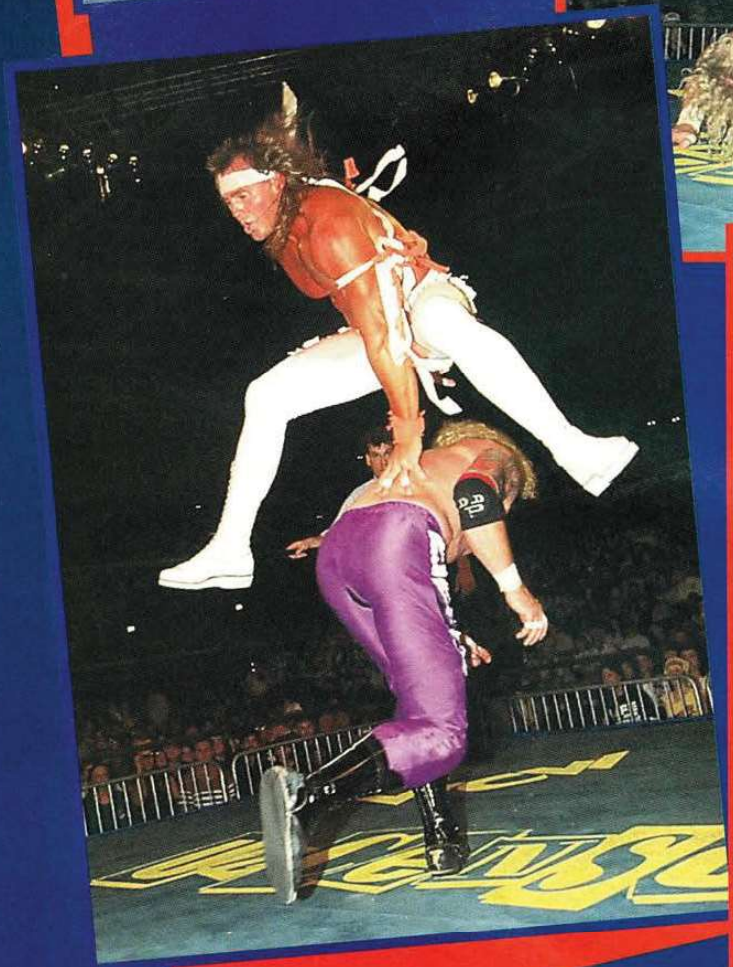
THE BOOTY MAN VS DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE

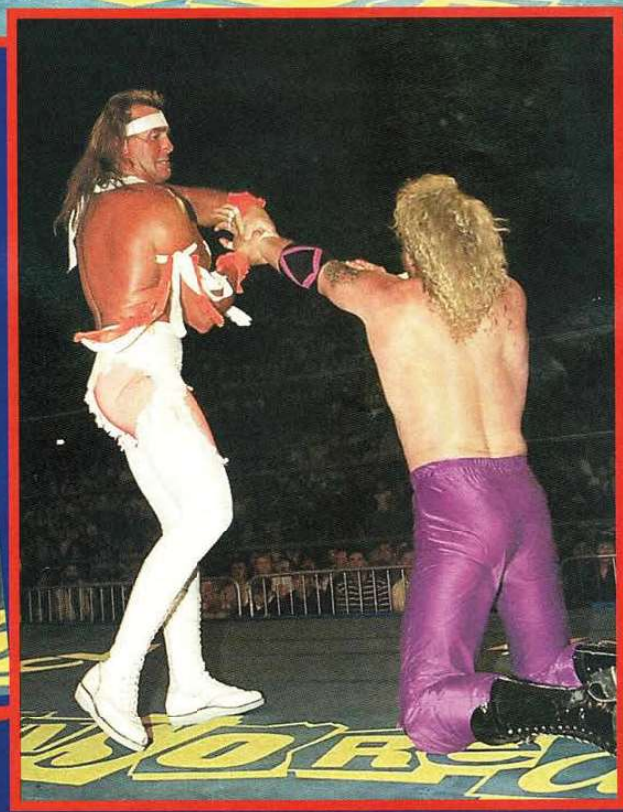
LOSER QUITS WRESTLING



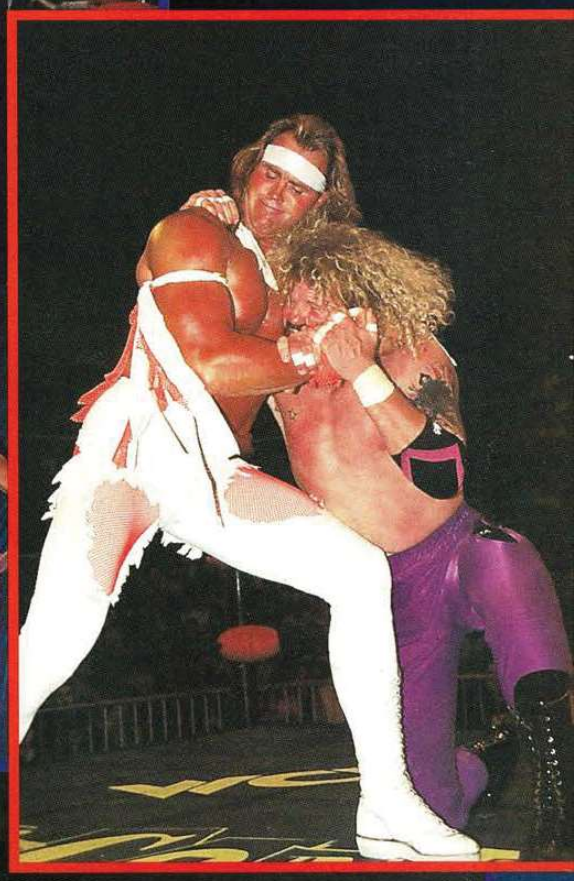
Can't DDP ever take on a match without stipulations that end up burning him in the end? These were the conditions: If Page lost, he'd have to leave WCW. If he won, he'd get what was left of his millions, as well as the hand of Kimberly, now known as The Booty Babe. To his credit, Page once again displayed his wrestling prowess, despite the fact that he was now broke and forced to compete in his oldest pair of ripped wrestling tights. His main problem

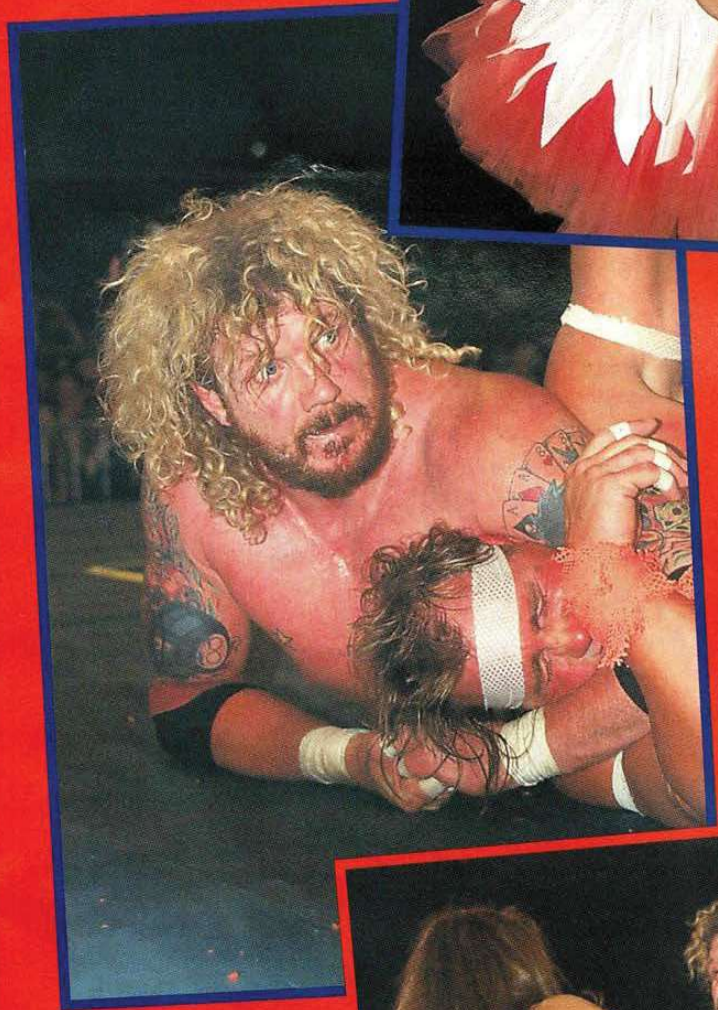


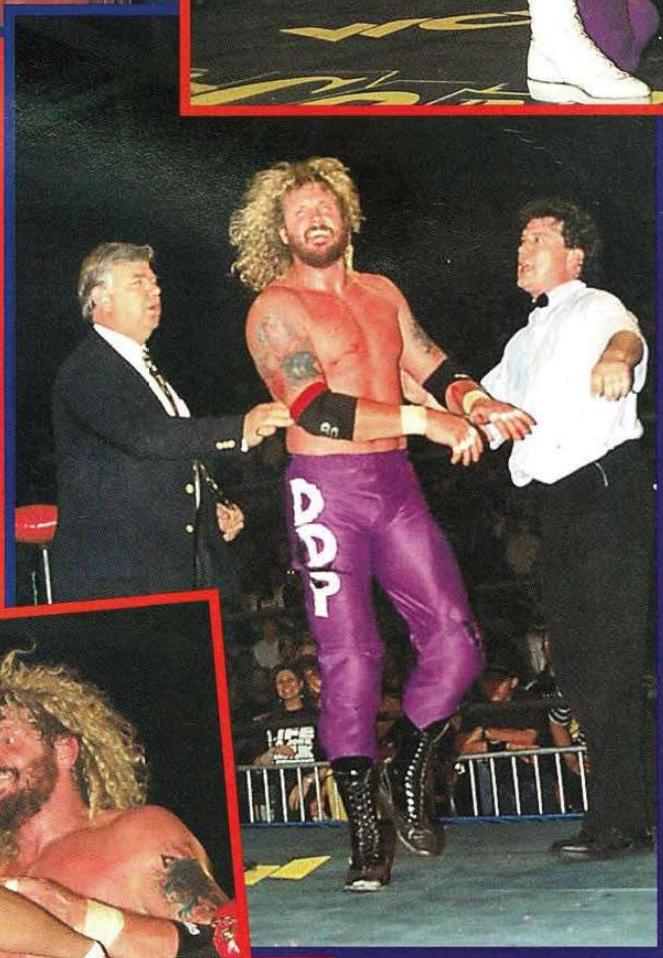


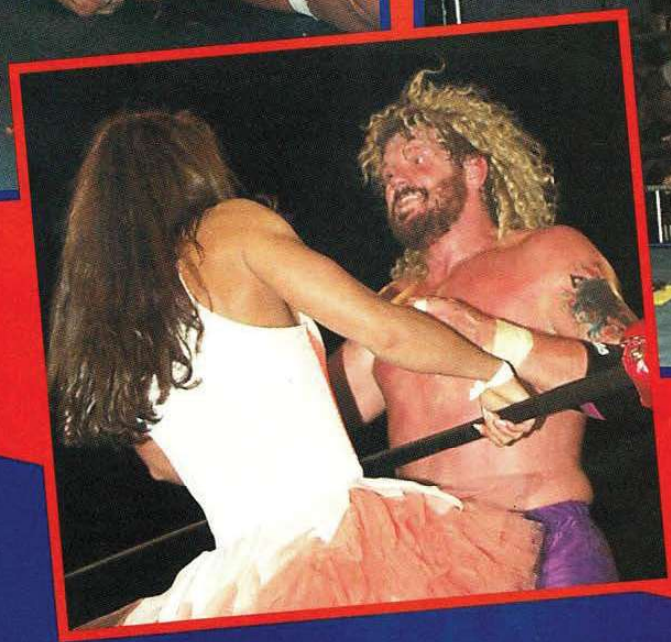


was underestimating the skills of the rejuvenated Hulkamaniac, The Booty Man. At one point, DDP had the nerve to kiss his former squeeze on the lips, but Kimberly hauled off and slapped him. Booty Man caught the dazed Page with a high knee to the stomach, followed by the pin. Goodbye, Dallas!
Result: Booty Man pinned Page in 14:44





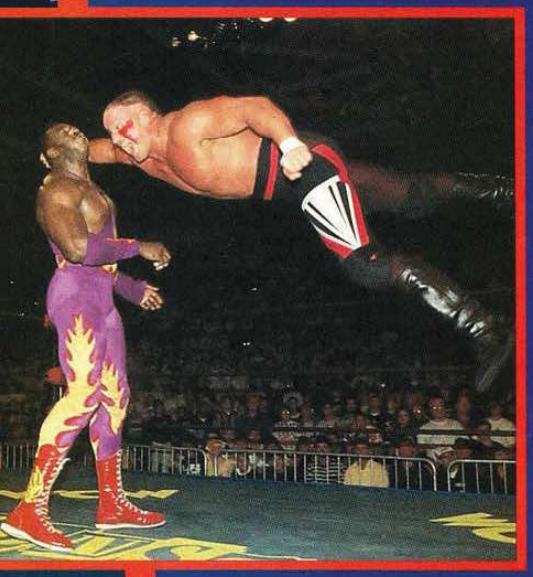


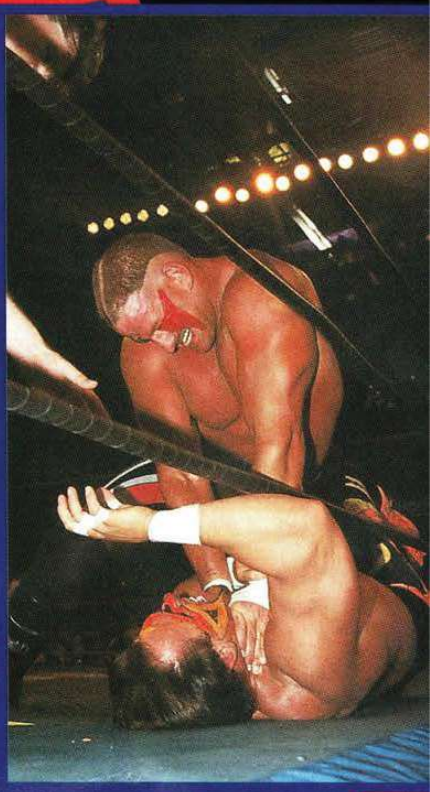


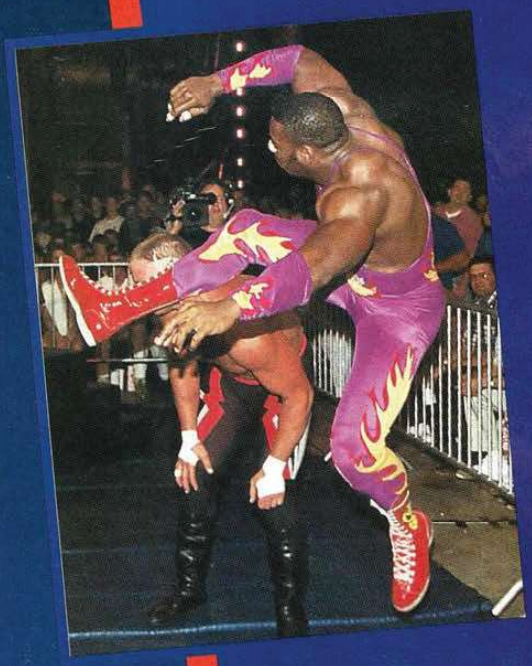
WCW UnCensored

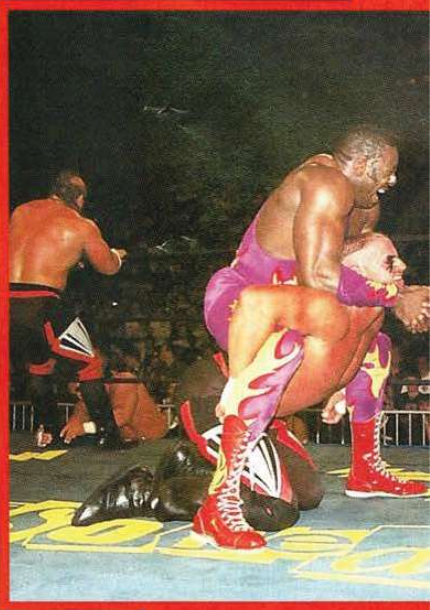
ROAD WARRIORS VS BOOKER T & STING

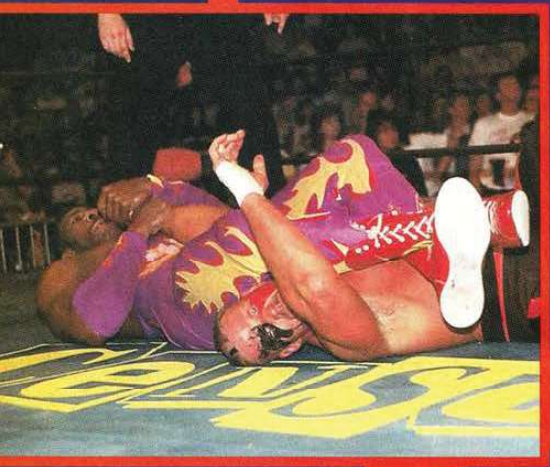
CHICAGO STREET FIGHT

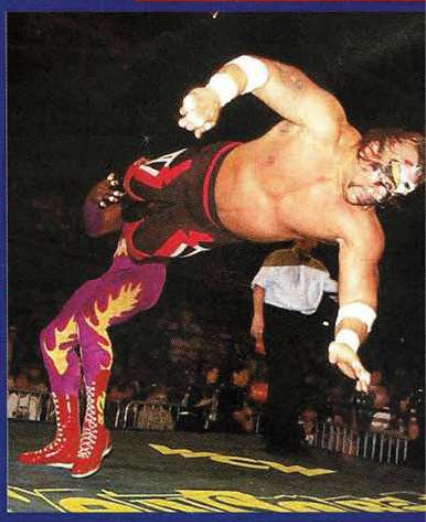




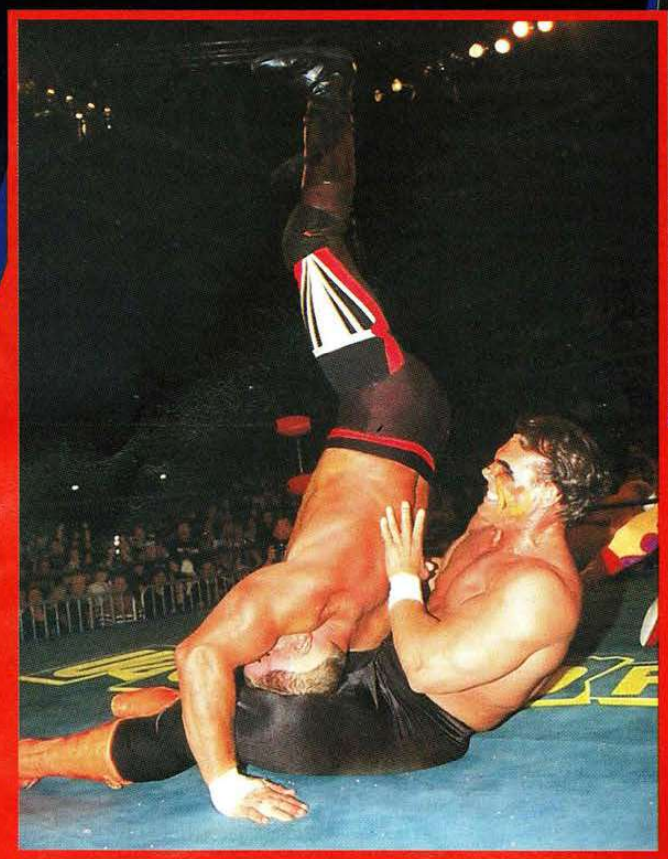


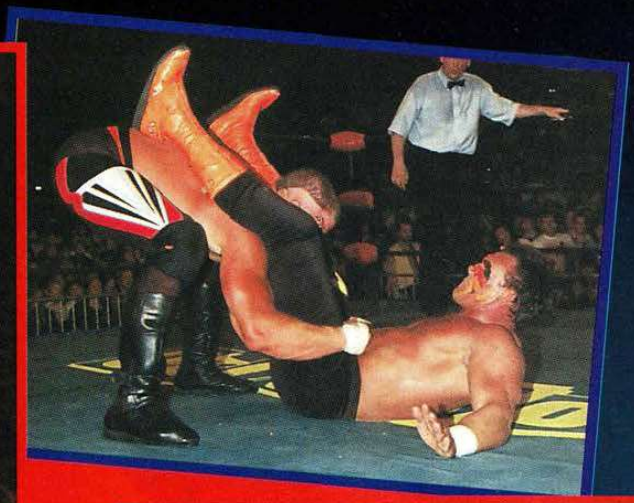


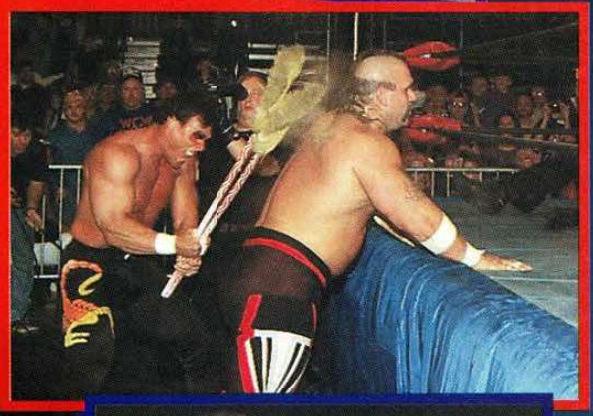


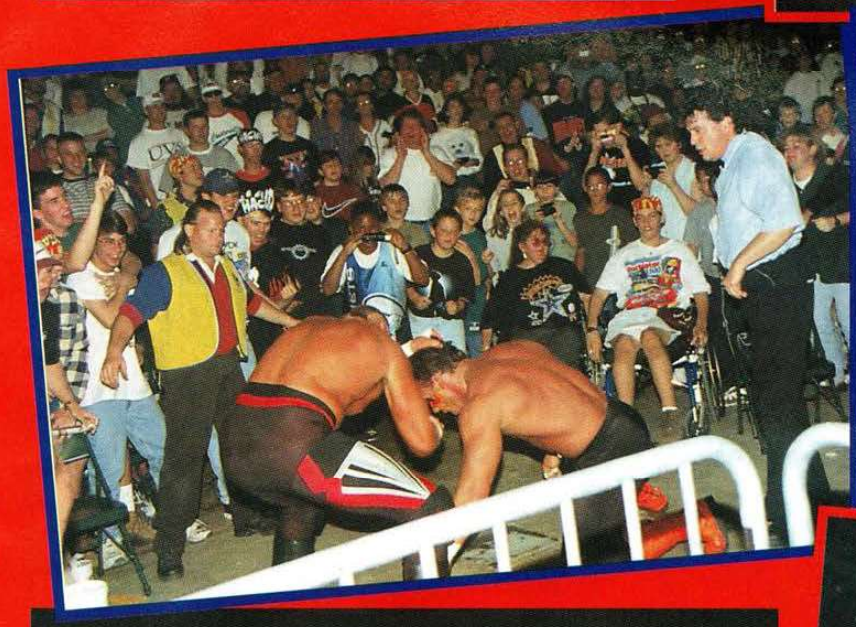


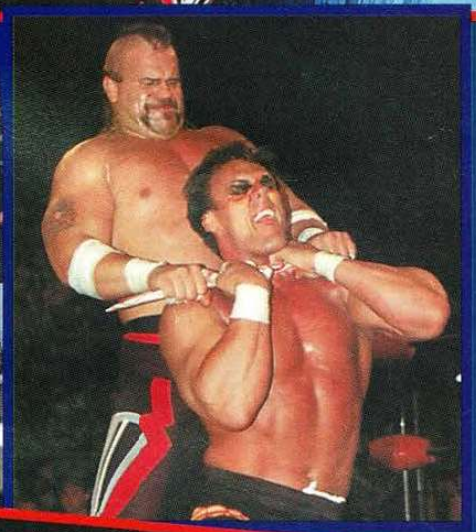
There were so many questions about this match. Why was it that Lex Luger, Sting's World Tag Team Championship partner, was not taking part in this important bout? Would Animal and Hawk perform with less rancor since Luger, their avowed enemy was not part of the match? Would Sting and Booker T be able to mesh as a working unit? The answers: Luger had a part in the main event, no, and yes! Chairs flew about as these four huge men went at each other with everything they had. Sting even used a pair of brooms to batter the Warriors. No rules and pinfalls counted anywhere, so why not pull out all the stops? Minutes later, as Sting and Hawk went at it, Booker T walked out of the arena and into the dressing room area. In the back, he met his Harlem Heat partner, Stevie Ray. Luger, Stevie, Jimmy Hart and Booker handcuffed Animal to a pole in the dressing area! Stevie Ray walked back to ringside armed with a chair, he blasted Hawk and Booker T scored the pinfall. All of this wild action was not viewed by Sting, who agreed to give Harlem Heat a title shot. But will Luger agree to it? Result: Booker T pinned Hawk in 28:29

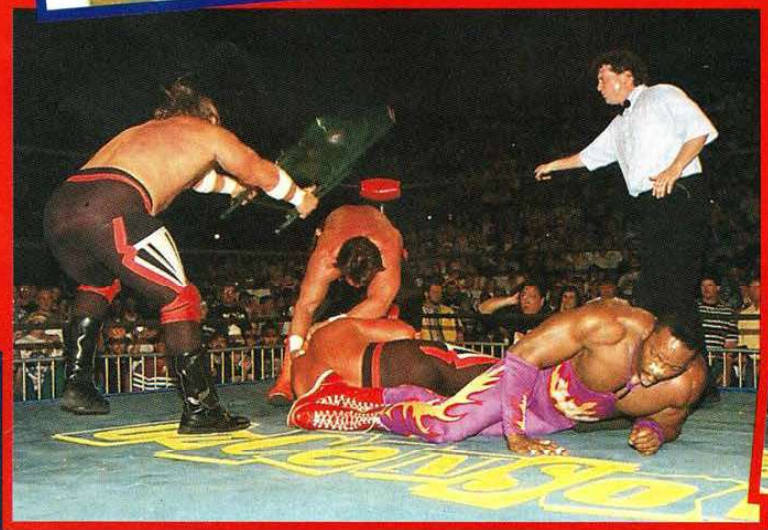


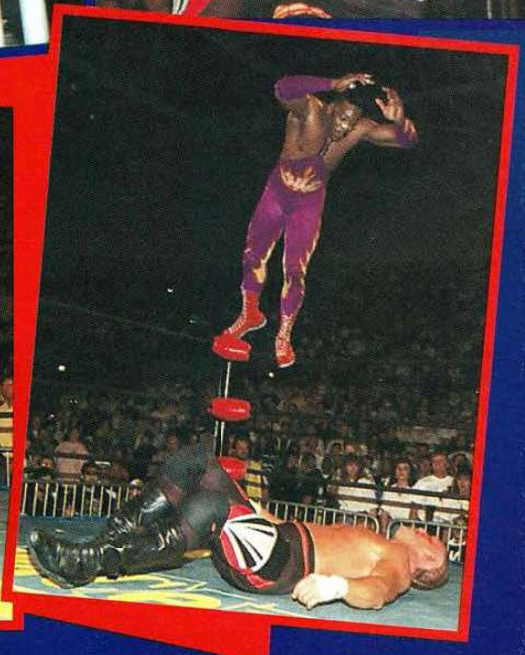












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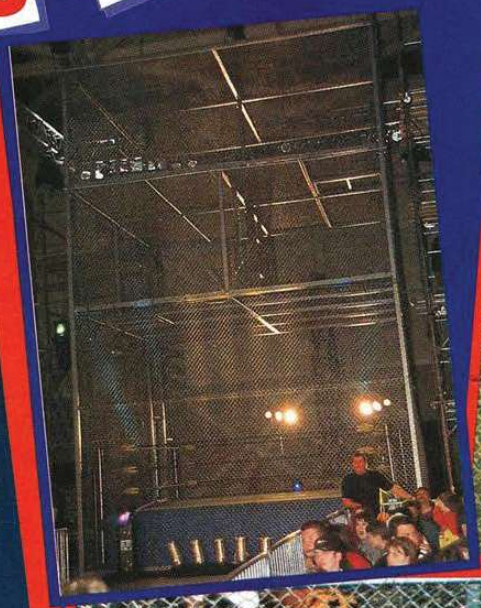
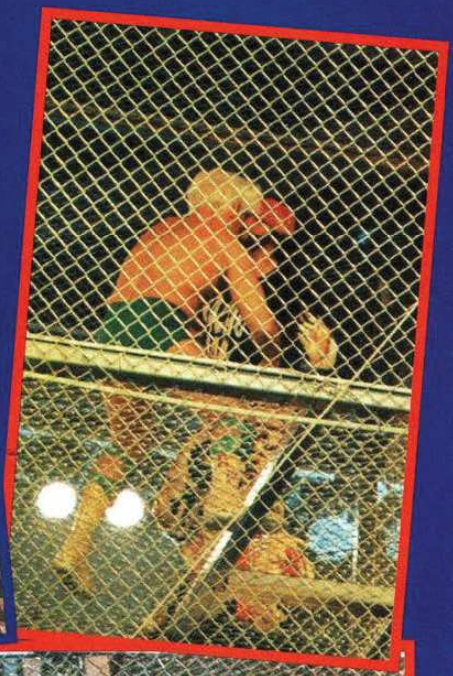
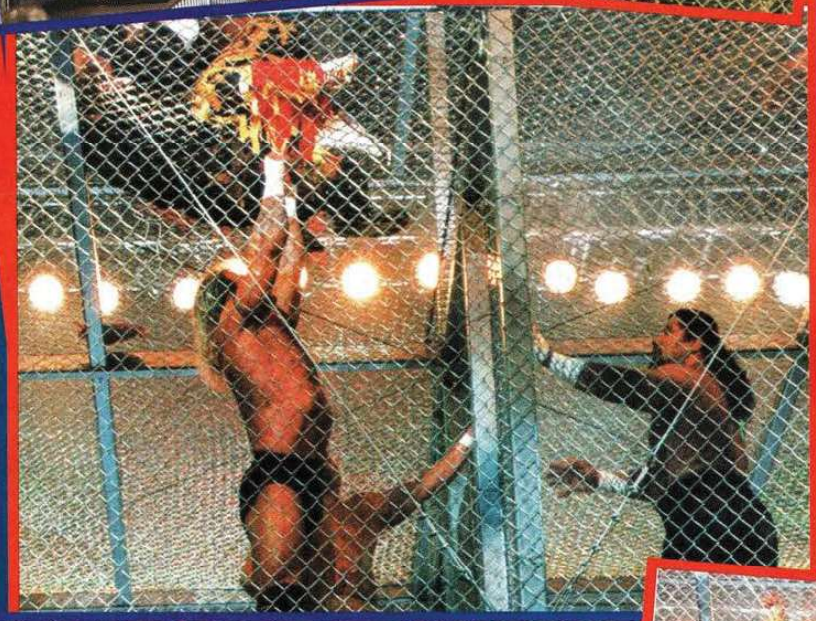


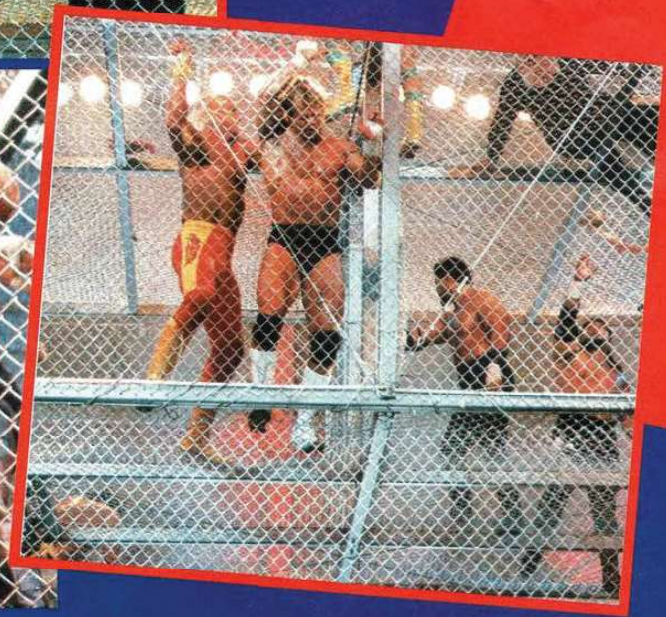


MEGA POWERS VS THE ALLIANCE TO END HULKAMANIA

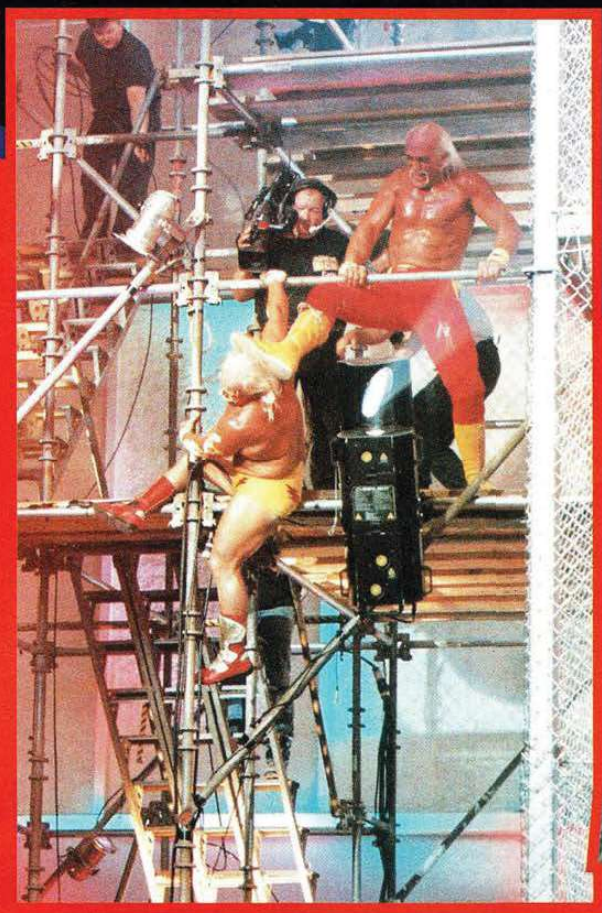
DOOMSDAY CAGE MATCH

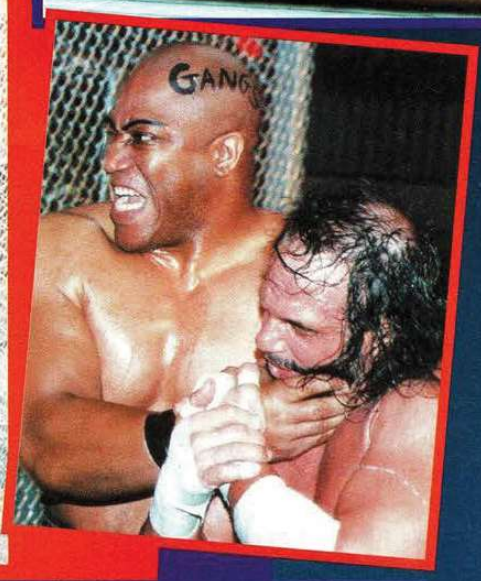
How in the world could two men, albeit the two greatest wrestlers in WCW history, compete against eight men, including two of the biggest and most dangerous in Z Gangsta and The Ultimate Solution? Hogan and Savage began at the top tier of this four-part cage and battled their way down. In the top were a crazed Ric Flair and Arn Anderson, but they were defeated when The Mega Powers threw powder into their eyes! In the next tier were Meng, Barbarian, Sullivan and Luger, but Hogan was prepared, and used a chain to pummel his archenemy Sullivan. Suddenly, all the brawlers fled the cage and made their way to the ring, where the rulebreakers started strong, but an out-of-the-ring brawl saw Hogan and Savage get the best of Luger and

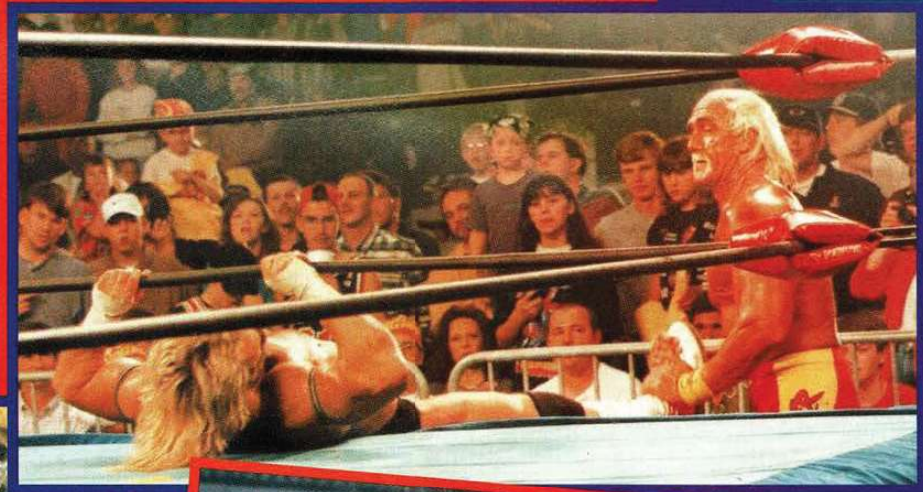


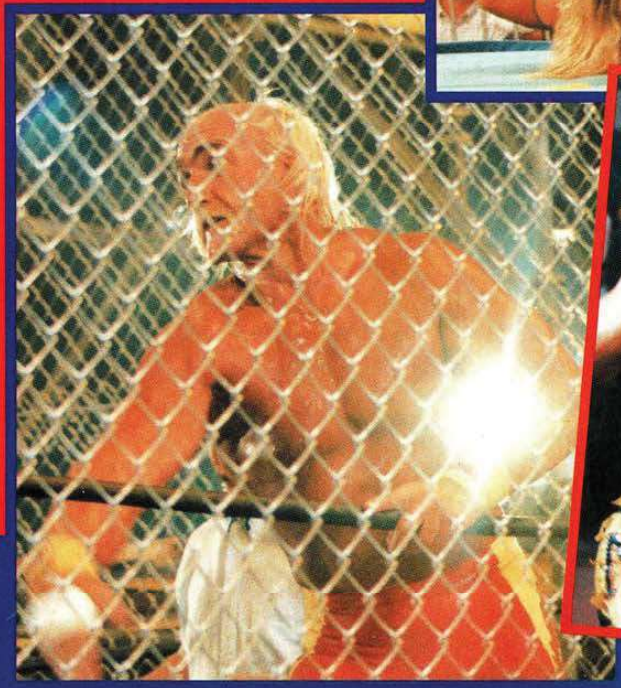


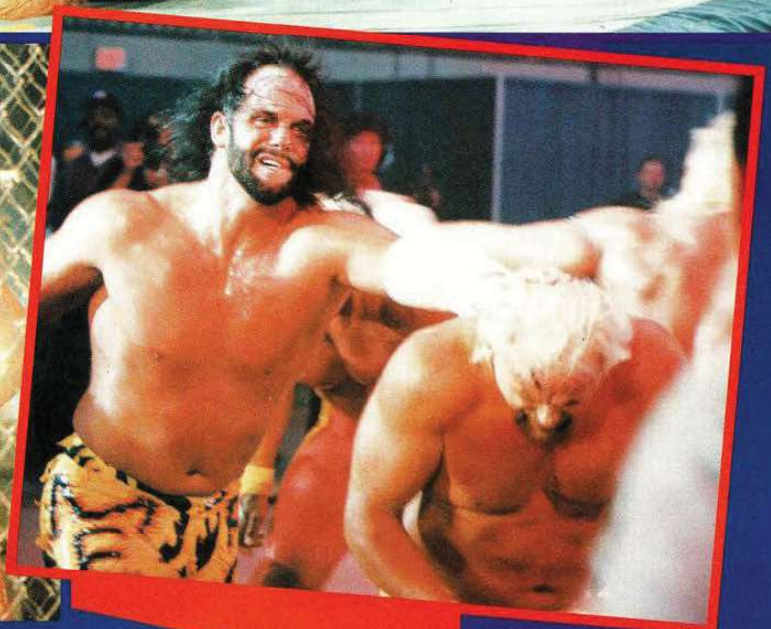
Sullivan. As that was happening, suddenly Gangsta and Solution came out from the dressing room area, and they all ended up back in the cage, with Gangsta, Solution, Flair, Anderson, and virtually everyone else out to end Hulkamania. When things looked bleak, The Booty Man ran to the cage and handed Hogan powder and two frying pans. Hogan and Savage blasted everyone with the pans! Luger countered by slipping on a weighted black glove as Flair held Savage's arms behind his back. However, Savage ducked, and Luger hit Flair, even though the cameras showed he really didn't have do. He actually stopped for a moment before hitting the "Nature Boy." Moments later, Savage scored the pin, he and Hogan had defeated eight men, and a new era of Hulkamania was ushered in! Result: Hogan & Savage defeated The Alliance To End Hulkamania at 20: 30











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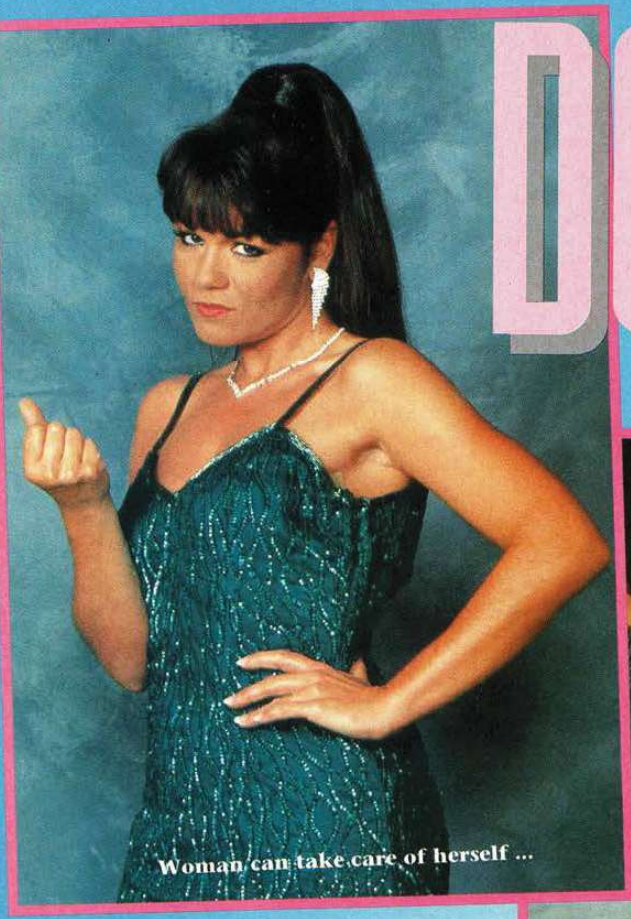
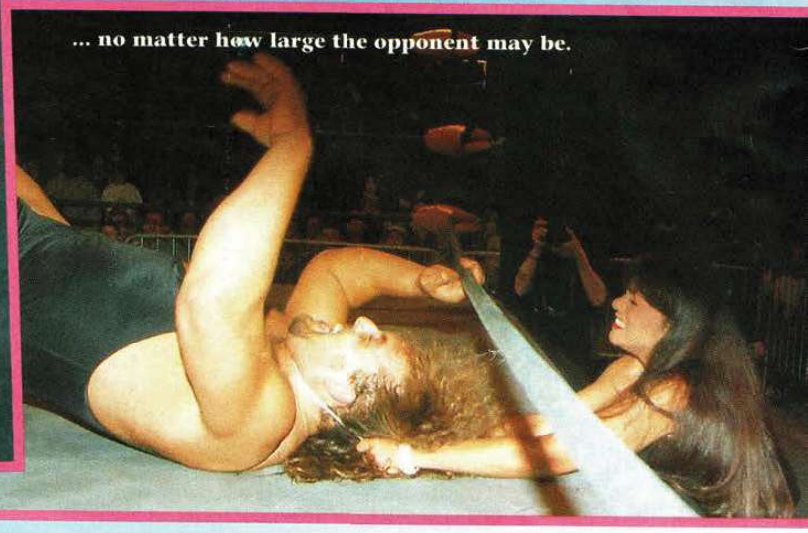


Woman can take care of herself ...



... no matter how large the opponent may be.

Woman, the cunning manager of "Nature Boy" Ric Flair, celebrated the July 4th holiday last summer in picturesque Key Largo, Florida. She was there, unbeknownst to the wrestling world, at the request of the man himself, Ric Flair. The two were formulating "their plans to take over WCW," as she states in her ever-diabolical manner.

However, "The Plan" actually had its roots days earlier, WCW Magazine has learned, when Woman went shopping at the Bal Harbour Shops in Miami, an area on Collins Avenue that offers dozens of luxury boutiques and stores, such as Saint Laurent, Gucci, Cartier and Neiman-Marcus. Bal Harbour is the Rodeo Drive of the East — and one of Woman's favorite hang-outs.

As Woman walked through the Gucci store this Tuesday afternoon, she passed The Lovely Elizabeth. The two paused, looked back at each other then shook hands. They were, after all, respected members of wrestling's "manager" sorority, even though they had never spent any time in the same federation. The two though, instantly hit off, we learned.

"How are things with you and your EX-HUSBAND, "Macho Man" Randy Savage?" Woman asked.

"Well, I'm glad he's my EX," Liz responded. "I got him all the fame he's ever had in wrestling, yet he tries to take all the credit. I still have some sentimental feelings for Randy, as anyone would after being married to someone for several years. However, I want to lead my life and, to do that, I want no part of Randy Savage. Problem is, Randy and Hulk have each been calling me weekly. In fact, several times a week. They want to see if things can be patched up between me and Macho, if only for business sakes ... so I can make the "Macho Man" more money."

That was all Woman needed to hear. The seed had been planted in her conniving cranium. Woman then invited Liz to attend the Independence Day rendezvous with Flair due south on Interstate 1.

Now "The Plan" would officially begin. And, for parts of the next five-plus months, this trio of terror plotted and schemed the ultimate destruction of Hulk Hogan and "Macho Man" Randy Savage, not to mention another title run for the "Nature Boy."

And to make the plan perfect, Liz continued communicating with Savage and Hogan, telling them that she was in fact on their side.

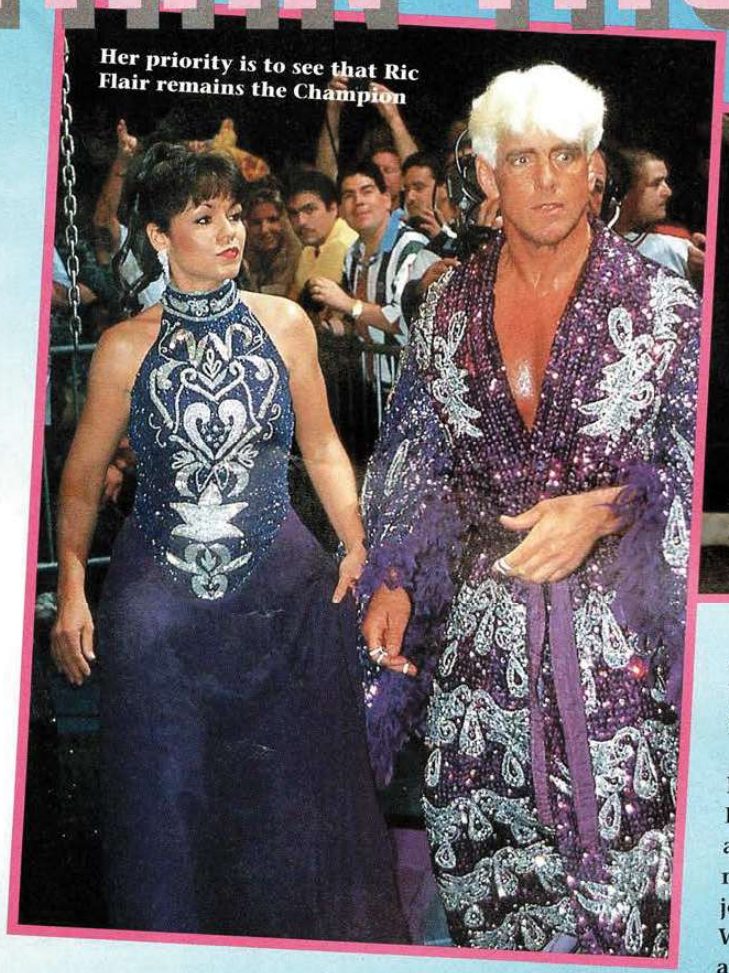
Then, during the back-to-back Monday Nitro and Clash of the Champions in Las Vegas, she and Woman even walked side-by-side with the Mega Powers.

But how things changed over the next couple of weeks in WCW, and we're not talking about the weather.

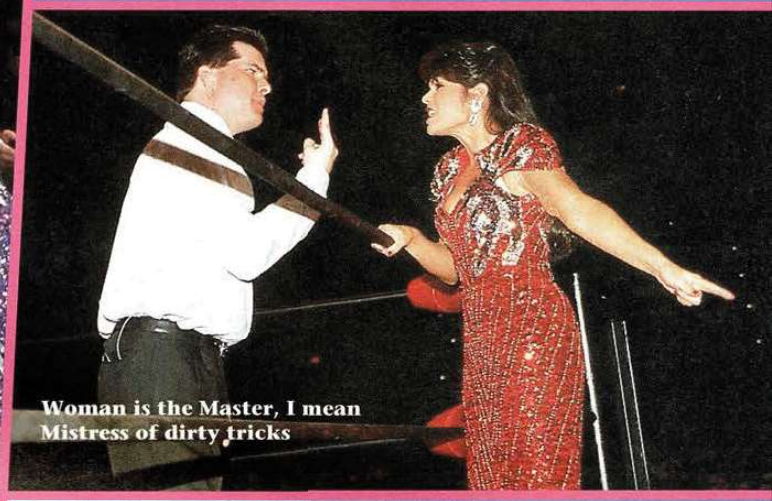
"Things are great, wonderful; nothing could be better. I'm on top of the world," Woman said. "I've got a World Champion at my side, a championship belt in my hand and it's the beginning of the end of Hulkamania."

"It seems that everyone has their own personal reason for ending Hulkamania and, for me, the reason is simple: there's just nothing good about it. I don't see anything good about Hulkamania. I don't care for the rubbish that spews out of his mouth, (such as) eating your vitamins and saying your prayers. I think Hulk Hogan is a farce."

THAN THE MALE



Her priority is to see that Ric Flair remains the Champion



Woman is the Master, I mean Mistress of dirty tricks

"My personal agenda upon arriving in WCW earlier this year was two-fold: help Ric Flair win the WCW Heavyweight Championship, which we've accomplished, and, end Hulkamania, and that's in the process. Along the way, I also plan on stabbing the heart of a dear friend of the Hulkster (Randy Savage), by taking something that was dear to him and sticking it right under his nose."

Yes, Woman is a psychology major, if anything. She is a master of mind games, a student of deceit. Woman is simply the female version of Ric Flair — and Randy Savage should have seen that in January, and not trusted her! Instead, Savage's trust backfired, when Woman choked him during a telecast of Monday Nitro.

"Miss Elizabeth and I are simply at ringside to make sure the job gets done. We want — and will — make sure Ric remains the Champion, by hook or by crook," she said. "In our gameplan, there is no room for mistakes, and there won't be any."

"Being side-by-side with Ric Flair is a natural, if I say so myself."

She added: "Over the years, I have been called every nasty name in the book, including wretched. But I couldn't care less what others think of me. I think of myself as the investigator, the instigator, the intimidator. I also have been known to be mean. I have a love for money, gold and being on top. I accept nothing less than being No. 1."

Flair was quick in his opinion of Woman, but very straight-forward. "Woman, oh Woman, won't you marry me now? Whooo!"

Woman — by her own admission — is ruthless and engineering. She has a non-stop creative mind and is "never spastic or so radical that I don't know every little step."

She is detail-minded, calculating and very manipulative.

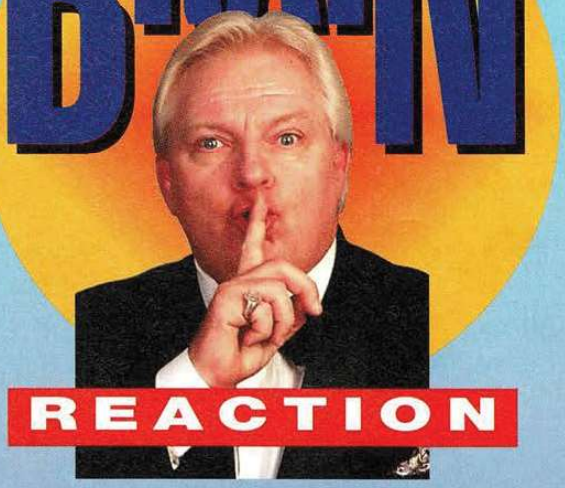
"I'm a manager, the best manager there is in professional wrestling. I'm not a valet," she said, her snarl as wicked as ever.

"A valet is simply an ornament, someone who just stands there, fluffs, dusts and opens the ropes (for her man). That's not Woman. I have the ropes opened for me."

Woman's first stint in WCW, which lasted a couple of years, began in the late-1980s. She was involved with a Ric Flair reign over the federation, which included title defenses over Sting and Lex Luger, among others. She also was instrumental in a plot to destroy the Steiner Brothers.

"I will do anything, absolutely anything, to maintain the belt. I basically have no fear and you will see that every time I'm ringside," Woman said.

BRAIN REACTION



Bobby "The Brain" Heenan is the co-host of WCW Monday Nitro Live on TNT. He also serves as color commentator on WCW Clash and PPV broadcasts.
All the views expressed are his and his alone!

Ever since I started writing this column, I have complained about having to answer letters from you humanoids. It is way below me and simply a waste of my valuable time, but the editor of this rag, insisted. So I have obliged, much to my chagrin. But not anymore! I received a letter in mid-April from Damon Hambruch of Honolulu, Hawaii, that was the capper. He writes:

Dear Bobby,

I am planning on buying a Corvette. I have seen several models that I like, but was curious which is your favorite 'Vette."

Well, Coconut Kid, let's get a couple of things straight: I don't drive; I get chauffeured everywhere I want to go. And, I don't like animals, so you won't see me at the vet.

But, since I'm a nice guy, I approached Madusa with Damon's letter since she "claims" to be a Corvette-junkie. Here's what Madusa had to say:

"Well, my three favorite models are the '67, which was the last year of the Stingray Corvette; the '72, which was the last year Corvettes had a removable rear window; and the '90, which was the first year the ZR1 was built. Hope that helps, Damon."

Ya know, that's exactly what I was going to say. Now on to the rest of my Pulitzer column ...

Last month's cover-shot for WCW Magazine showed the idiotic Stinger holding his 1995 Wrestler of the Year Trophy. Why? Can anyone tell me why that face-painted freak was featured? After all, I WON THE 1995 ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR AWARD! (See page 17 of the May issue in case you forgot.) Where's my cover?

As long as we're on the subject of broadcasters, where did this Lee Marshall come from? He looks like a reject from the Tony Schiavone School of Fashion. To say he's annoying is a compliment. Seriously, let's look at WCW's recent broadcasting hirees.

You've got Lee Marshall, who couldn't tell a pile-driver from a limo-driver; and then there's McNuggets, the only broadcaster in the world who could make Dusty Rhodes sound intelligent.

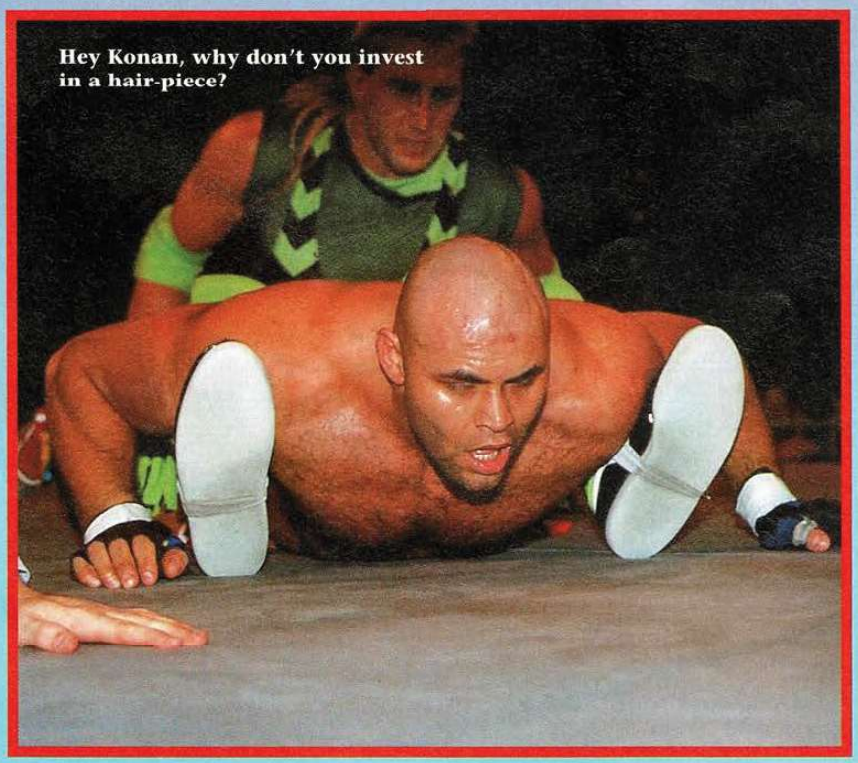
You know those bullets that Sgt. Pittman wears around his neck on his way to the ring ... well, they evidently have blurred his vision quite severely. Maybe he hasn't realized it yet, but, since siding with "Eight-Ball" Teddy Long, Pittman has only one victory (and that was by disqualification) in 275 matches. Pittman is no longer a "The Pitbull." He's now "The Poodle."

I believe the tag team situation here in WCW is better than at any other time in my career. Think about it, there easily are 12 teams that could be champions, more if you count the "impromptu teams," such as Hulk Hogan and the Booty Man. There is, though, one team that, I feel, is extremely under-rated: The Faces of Fear, Meng and The Barbarian. You don't hear much about them, mainly because they spend a lot of time in Tonga. This is a team of destiny, I believe, and, truthfully, I'm kind of curious about why they haven't received a title shot. So, over the next couple of weeks, I'm going to do a little snooping around ... to see what gives.

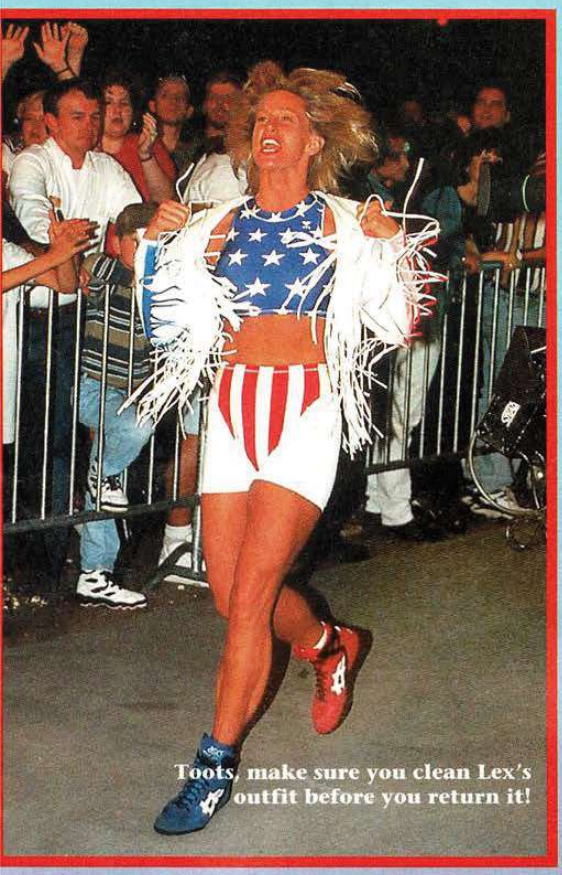
I'm going on record right now, Arn Anderson will have championship gold around his waist by the end of the summer ... by hook or by crook.

Hey, Konan, with the extra pesos that you earn by holding the U.S. Title, why don't you invest in a hair-piece, or at least some spray on hair. (See Gene if you want to join The Hairclub For Men.)

Getting back to Madusa, a lot of people ask me how she got her name. Well apparently her parents wanted a name that would suit her and so Mad and Dizzy were the choices, unfortunately nobody in her family can talk properly and somehow it came out as Madusa.



Hey Konan, why don't you invest in a hair-piece?



Toots, make sure you clean Lex's outfit before you return it!

One final point about Madusa, where did she get her ring attire for Uncensored? It looks to me as if she rummaged among Lex Luger's cast-offs.

If I was to return to managing, the tag team I'd like to swindle, er, manage is Harlem Heat: Stevie Ray and Booker T. They are a big, bad powerful pair, yet not too bright, which is always good when it comes time to cash the check.

Talking with "Taskmaster" Kevin Sullivan can make you feel numb.

Talking with "Macho Man" Randy Savage is dumb.

Talking with "Das Wunderpunk" Alex Wright about his chance for championship glory is glum.

I've learned a little about Mark Madden, he of WCW Hotline fame. "Flounder," as he likes to be known, can be heard each Wednesday and Friday on Option 1 of the WCW Hotline (1-900-909-9900) and, yes, there's a reason for those two days: they are the only days of the week that he showers. And it's only on the first Wednesday and Friday of each month. "Flounder" claims to work full-time for a newspaper in Pittsburgh, and he does. He won the 1995 Delivery Boy of the Year Award. Congrats, "Flounder!"

I've got tickets for all the events at the upcoming Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Send me your money and I'll see if I can spare any.

Ric Flair with two beautiful babes, Woman and the Lovely Elizabeth, at his side? Something is not right ... what happened to the other eight?

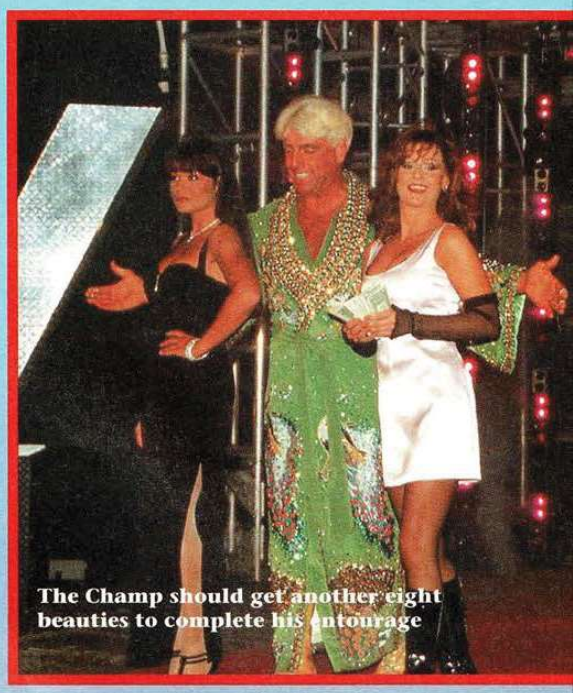
I don't trust Kimberly, the Booty Babe. Not that you should ever trust a female, but, there's just something about her that I don't like. Maybe it's just the fact that she's a member of Hulk Hogan's entourage, I don't know.

Woman is my kinda woman.

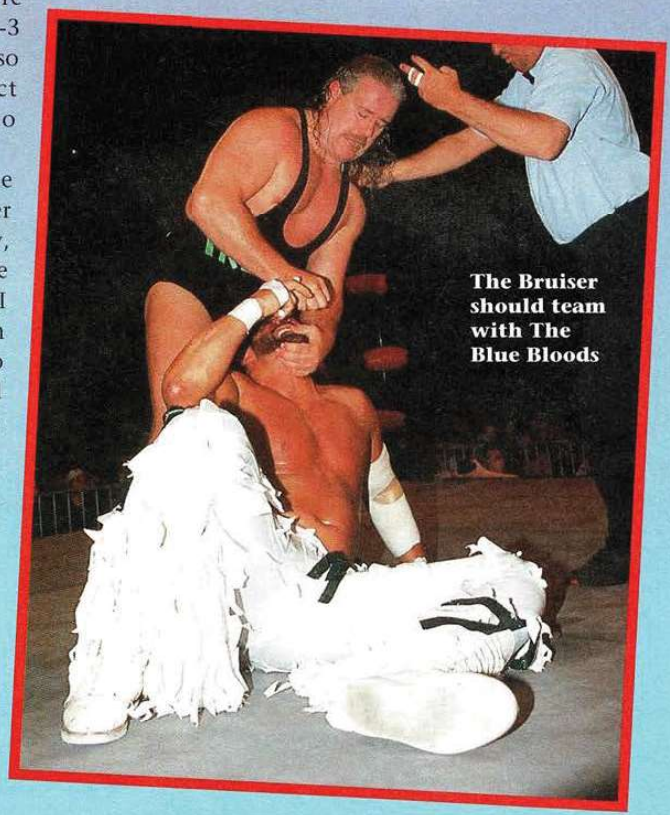
Mean Gene has hit an all-time low: writing about "Dorky" Dave Penzer in the May issue. Penzer is nothing more than one of those goody-two-shoes who you want to slap every time you see him. Come to think of it, that's exactly how I feel about Mean Gene.

"Hacksaw" Jim Duggan carries a 2-by-4 and an American flag to the ring, and, quite often, he has a roll of tape stashed away in his tights. What gives? That's three foreign objects. Oh silly me, our referee corps — "Reject" Randy Anderson and "Nerdy" Nick Patrick — has enough trouble counting the 1-2-3 in most matches, so how can I expect them to do something else.

The more I see the Belfast Bruiser Dave "Fit" Finlay, the more I like him. However, I don't think it's in his best interest to continue this feud with The Blue Bloods. Perhaps Mr. Finlay forgets the fact that there are three Blue Bloods: Lord Steven Regal, Earl Robert Eaton and Squire David Taylor. And each is smart and skilled. My suggestion to the four of them: put aside their differences and form The Foreign Alliance. Sure, it would be quite embarrassing for The Blue Bloods to be seen with a commoner the likes of Finlay, but, perhaps it's in everyone's best interest.



The Champ should get another eight beauties to complete his entourage

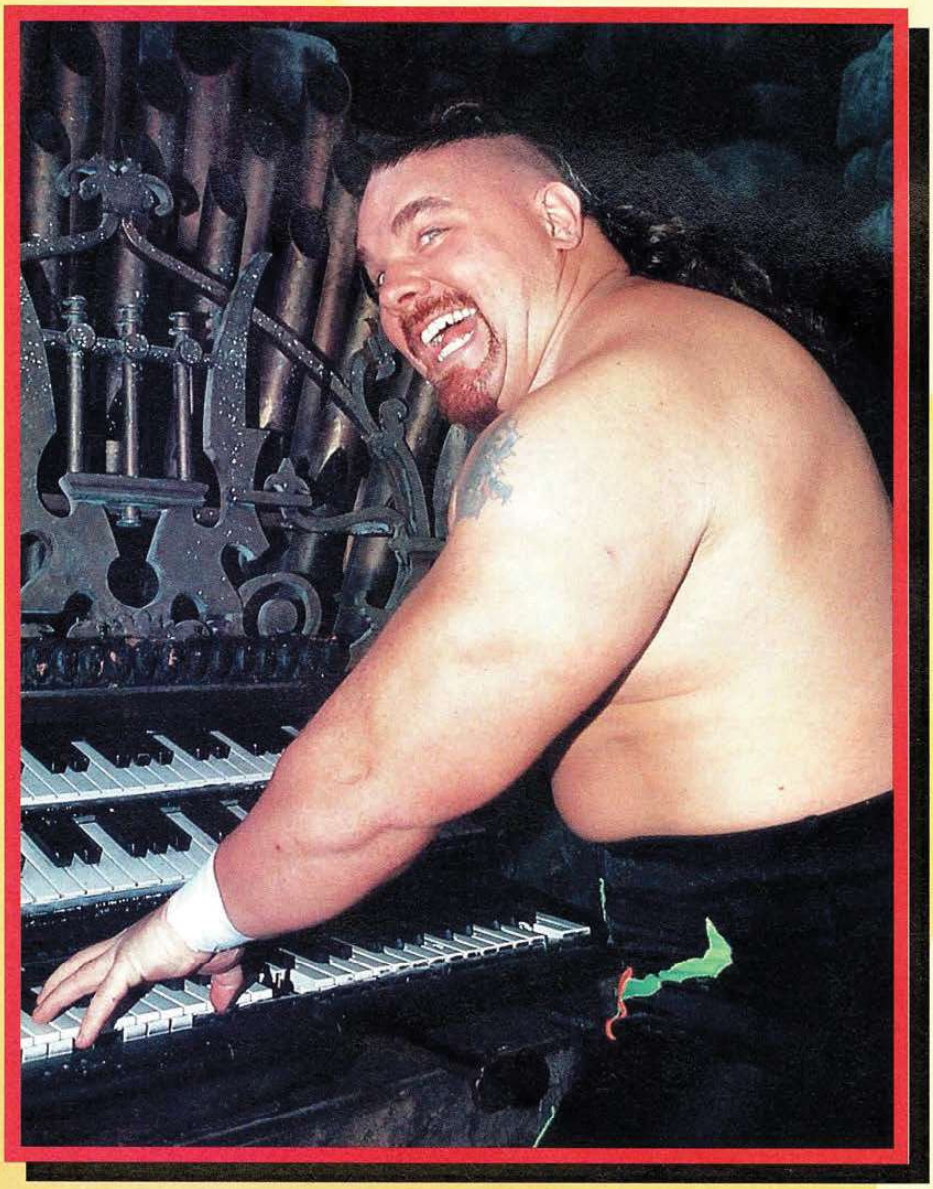


The Bruiser should team with The Blue Bloods

LAUGHING ALL THE WAY TO STARDOM

Don't let all the giggling fool you: Hugh Morrus is not only the newest stalwart of the Dungeon of Doom, but he's a talented wrestler with power, ring smarts, and pure nastiness. There's nothing this guy doesn't have ... except, maybe, a full deck!

Hit him, he laughs. Boo him, he laughs even louder. He doesn't say a whole lot, but he's got tons of talent ... and he's certainly a good bet to be a WCW Newcomer of the Year pick next year!



"He who laughs last ... wins!" said Morrus after defeating Scott Armstrong on a recent edition of WCW Pro. Perhaps, but anyone who has felt the brunt of Morrus' amazing full-body moonsault/headbutt combination surely isn't laughing!

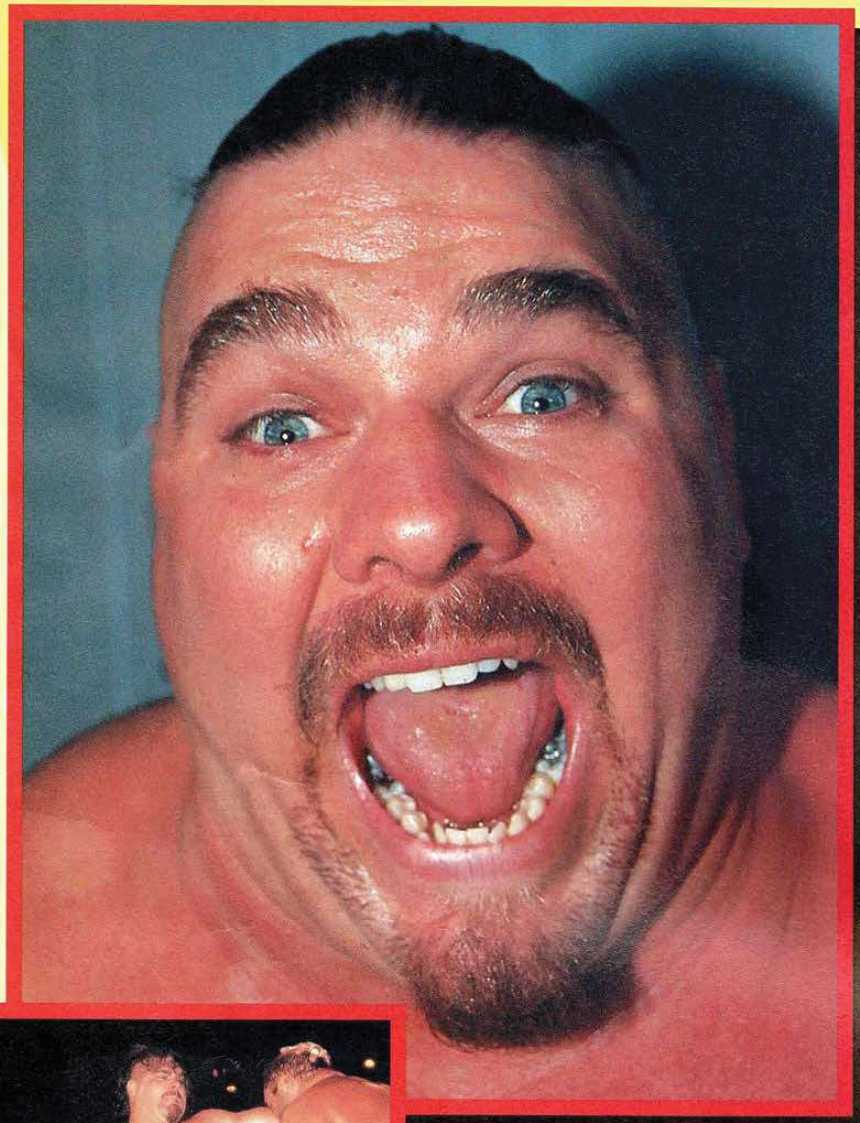
WCW fans have seen other moonsaults, from everyone from Vader to Eddie Guerrero to Konan. Morrus' moonsault is a true thing of beauty, although he's usually performing it against Randy Savage, Armstrong, or other WCW fan favorites.

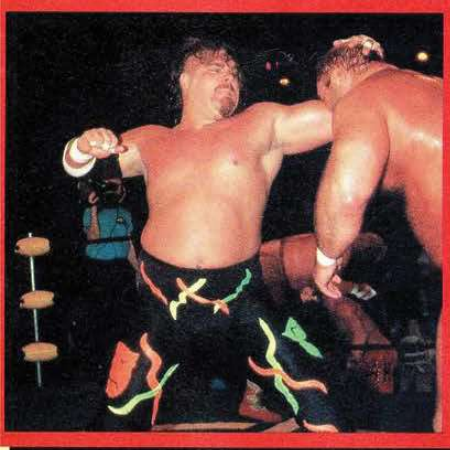
How good is Morrus? Kevin Sullivan, at the height of his barnstorming for Dungeon of Doom candidates, was very selective with his talent signings.

"Only the best will end Hulkamania!" he said often. So it was no surprise when Sullivan added Morrus to the DOD roster from the moment he saw him.

The Taskmaster has even had enough confidence in Morrus to make him his tag team partner in one of the most important tag teams bouts of the year thus far: The now-legendary Monday Nitro bout pitting The DOD duo against Arn Anderson and Brian Pillman, the match that signaled the end of Pillman's Horsemen reign.

Sullivan could've teamed with any WCW superstar, but he chose Morrus, because Hugh is a huge 310-pound monster with no reservations about getting down and dirty with WCW's biggest stars.





Just ask the "Macho Man!"

"Wow, this guy is good!" enthused Savage after he scored a very hard-fought victory over Morrus on WCW TV, but Morrus has shown no fear against anyone. Already, just months in WCW, he's been in the ring against Savage, Hogan, Anderson, Pillman and countless other WCW stars. His won-lost record is startlingly good for such an inexperienced wrestler.

What exactly is on Morrus' seemingly twisted mind? It's hard to tell. There have been other "crazy men" in the history of the sport such as George "The Animal" Steele and "Wild" Bull Curry, but most astute fans were well aware these men were just brawlers who couldn't wrestle a lick. What makes Morrus truly frightening is that he melds a sound scientific style with some hideously dangerous tactics. He seems willing to go to any length to score a victory, teetering very close to disqualification on many occasions.

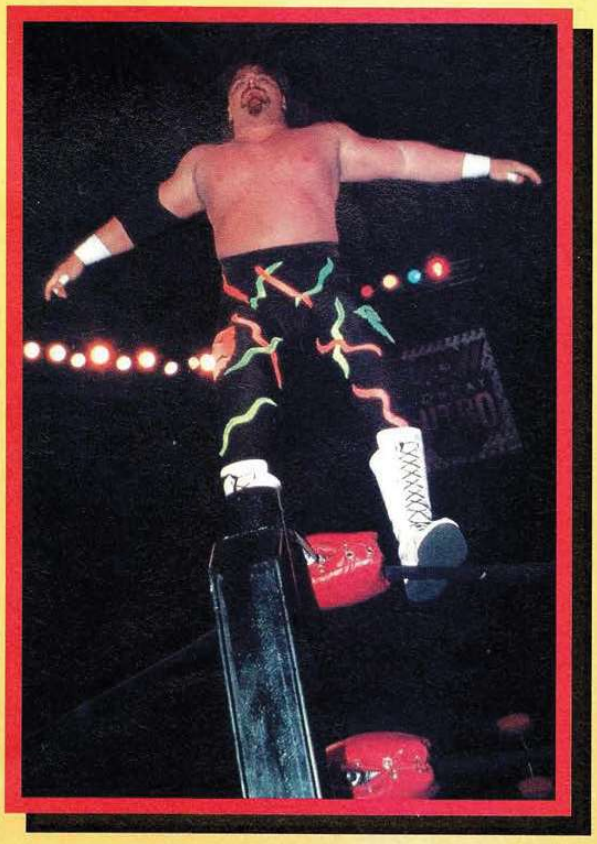
"This is someone everyone is going to have to keep their eyes right on," said veteran WCW manager Teddy Long. "He's powerful, very fast for a man his size, and truly savage when the mood strikes him. He laughs all the time, though! On the way to the ring, when he wins, even when he loses! It's a little demented ... this man is trouble!"

That seems to be a sure bet.

"I want everything I can get here in WCW ... heee heee!" Morrus said while facing the camera on a recent edition of WCW Pro Wrestling. "Gimme more ... gimme more ... I like it!" What does he mean? Only Sullivan seems to have a clue about where Morrus is coming from, but what's on Morrus' mind is one of WCW's best-kept secrets. Can this odd man become a WCW Champion?

Watch him fly through the air, upside down. See him use his fists and legs like battering rams. Then listen to him laugh. See the twisted look in his eyes.

Are YOU going to tell this man he can't be a contender?



THE Regal DECREE

Last month, to my astonishment, WCW Magazine editor Colin Bowman decided to stop printing The Regal Decree. He explained that I was getting just a wee bit too close to the censorship noses of quite a few people. I was shocked by his viewpoint, and told him in no uncertain terms at Uncensored.

The whimpering Colin realized he had made a major mistake and agreed to re-instate the column, but — believe it or not — had a clause. Mr. Bowman insisted that I honor him as a Baron. So I agreed ... WCW Magazine Editor Colin Bowman is, from here on out, Barren Bowman.

Now on to important matters ... WCW might be "Where the big boys play," but I am no boy and I certainly don't play. I'm English and I'm proud to be English.

I'm an English MAN, and don't forget that. To call me, or my noble colleagues — the Good Earl, Robert Eaton, and Squire David Taylor — boys is an insult as devastating as calling us Americans. We will not take that insult without a fight.

As for my battle at Uncensored with The Belfast Bruiser, Dave "Fit" Finlay, it definitely was a battle, the hardest battle of my life. I've told you numerous times that I would fight this man with every last drop of my noble breath, and that's what I did. My nose was broken in the match, but I persevered. Sure, my learned colleagues, the Good Earl and Squire David Taylor, saw fit to beat up "Fit" Finlay after seeing my nose broken, but, I could have finished the war quite easily on my own. I did not need their help. There was a bit of miscommunication between the three of us ... and it won't happen again. I will do my own fighting from now on, as they will do their own fighting.

A little more about Mr. Finlay ... that broken nose did not hurt, nor did the WCW Saturday Night attack seven days later while I was walking to the ring with my friend Robert, even though it cost me 12 stitches in the eye, a fractured cheekbone and two black-eyes. What hurts is, I still have not got my full revenge on David Finlay. But that's upcoming, even though, as you read this column, Mr. Finlay is flat on his back in a hospital in an exorbitant amount of pain caused by the hands of the three of us. Mr. Finlay does not have much time left here in America. It won't be much longer before I send him back home to Ireland, to pick potatoes.

After I destroy "Fit" Finlay, I want a shot at the WCW Heavyweight Championship. Yes, I, Lord Steven Regal, a man of honor and dignity, am formally announcing my candidacy for the No.1-ranking in WCW! I don't care who has the championship at the time, be it that horse-nosed, bleach-blonde Ric Flair, that ridiculous Hulk Hogan or that raspy-voiced "Macho Man" Randy Savage. I will, by the end of the summer, be the WCW World Heavyweight Champion ... and my word is as good as gold being the gentleman and scholar that I am.

My advice to everyone is: watch and learn, because you're going to see what a real wrestler looks like when he sets his mind on acquiring something. No one will stop me!

As of press time, I have no idea about Mr. Brian Pillman, whether he's wrestling for WCW or not. But, I will have to stand up for him in this column because, like Brian, I know full-well what it's like to be censored by WCW. I know what it's like to be pushed around due to the xenophobia that so many front-office executives possess. Americans have always said that the United States is a country that prides itself on free-speech ... well, evidently that does not include Eric Bischoff, Nick Lambros or any of those other ignoramuses.

My learned colleagues of The Blue Bloods have, at the moment, the fiercest competition in the tag team ranks ever; they definitely have their work cut out for them to obtain the WCW Tag Team Championship, which I know they will given time.

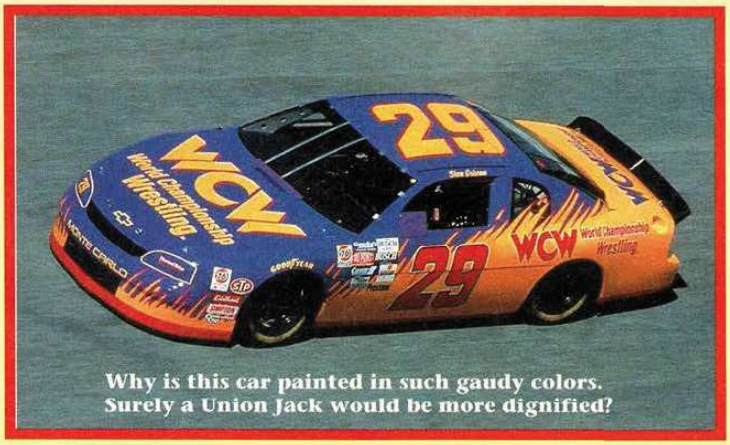
Even I will offer a small amount of credit to some of their admirable foes ... you've got Harlem Heat, The Road Warriors, The Steiner Brothers and the duo of Lex Luger and Sting, if they can agree on things for more than five minutes.

Well, as you can see, I never mentioned the American Males, and that's because in them I find everything that I despise about America all rolled into one team. Those pathetic individuals have no business being in a wrestling ring; in fact, they have no right to put up a wrestling ring.

So why will The Blue Bloods succeed? That's simple; they have grappling knowledge, and that's what this business is all about.

Every week we hear about the exploits of Steve Grissom, who is driving the WCW-sponsored car on the NASCAR Busch Series. How shocking, I feel. Only in America would we see such nonsense as men driving around in such gaudy cars. Just look at the colors painted on that vehicle; they're obnoxious. They might as well paint 'Here Comes The Circus' on it. I guess that's just typical America.

Before I close this month, I want to reflect back on a Lethal Lottery event that I took place in several years back. I was tagged with Ricky "The Dragon" Steamboat for the event who, at the time, was my arch-enemy. Well, if WCW officials pull out my name this year with some other disgraceful excuse for a human being who I despise, I will refuse to wrestle in the event. There is no need for me to compete with inferior partners, and I won't!



Why is this car painted in such gaudy colors. Surely a Union Jack would be more dignified?

Yours Loyally
Lord Steven Regal
Blackpool England

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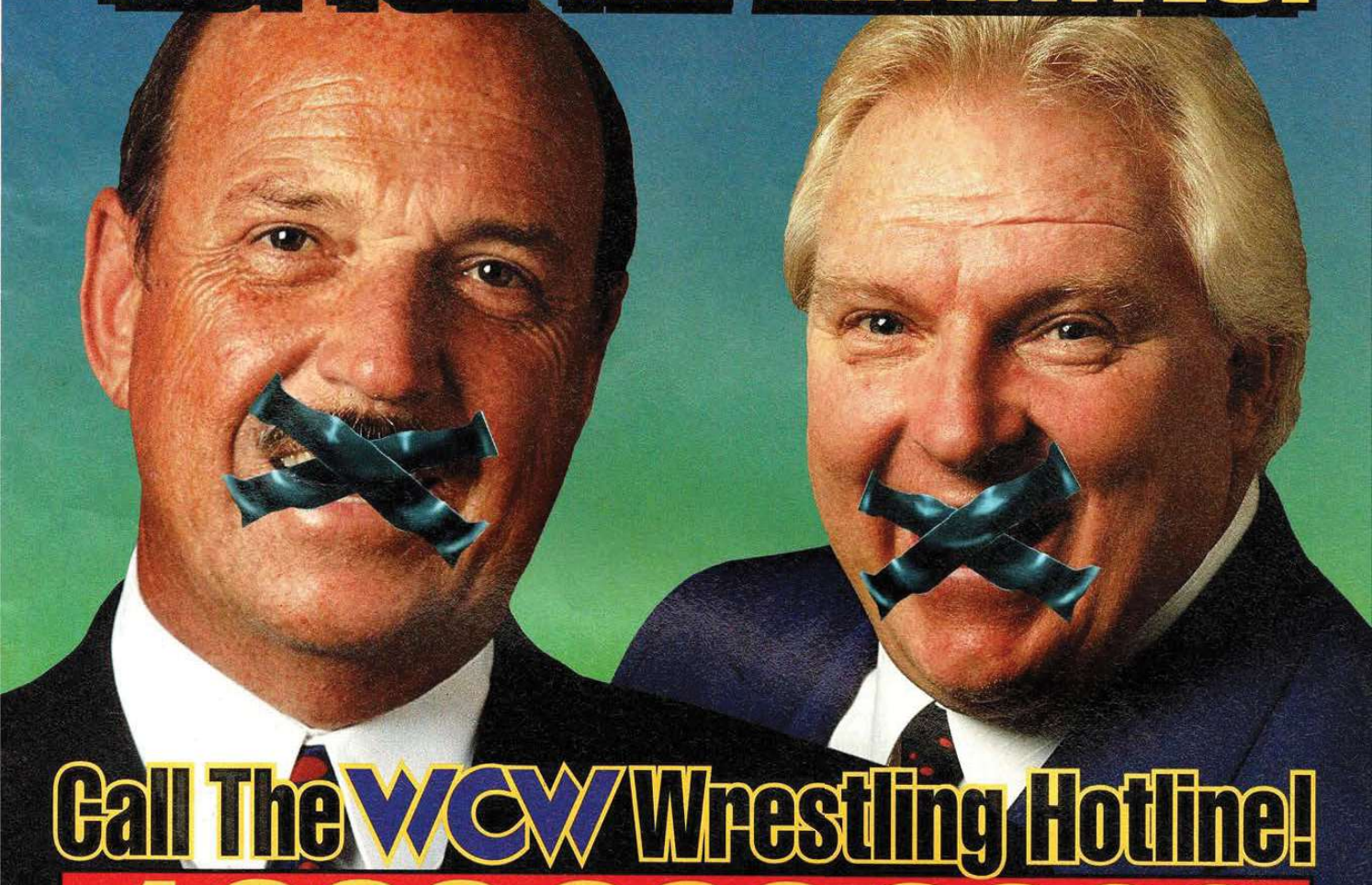

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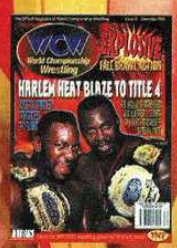

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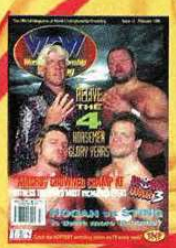

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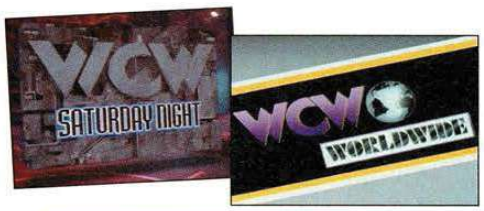

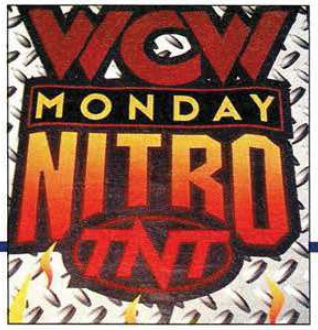

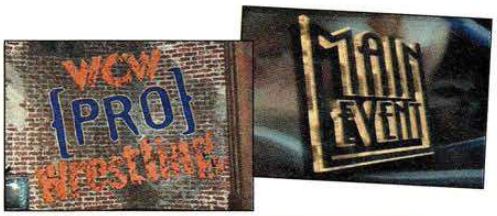

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SEATTLE KTZZ.

WCW WORLDWIDE
ALBUQUERQUE KASA, AMARILLO KFDA, ANCHORAGE KYES, ASHLAND/ MANSFIELD WBP, AUGUSTA WFXG, BALTIMORE WBFF, BILOXI/GULFPORT WLOX, BIRMINGHAM WTTO, BLUEFIELD WVVA, BOSTON WSBK, BOWLING GREEN WGRB, BRANSON KO5JQ, BURLINGTON/ PLATTSBURG WWIN, CHARLESTON WTAT, CHARLESTON/HUNTING WVAH, CHARLOTTE WFVT, CHARLOTTE WHKY, CHATTANOOGA WDSI, CHICAGO WCIU, CLEVELAND/CANTON WOAC, COLORADO SPRINGS KOAA, COLUMBIA WOLO, COLUMBUS WRBL, COLUMBUS WWHO, COLUMBUS/ TUPELO WTVA, DALLAS/FT WORTH KDFI, DAYTON WRGT, DETROIT WDIV, DOTHAN WTVY, EL PASO KJLF, ERIE WJET, FLORENCE WBTW, FORT WAYNE WFFT, FRESNO/VISALIA KAIL, GREENSBORO/WSTONSALEM/HIPOINT WGGT/WXLV, GREENWOOD/GREENVILLE WXVT, GREENVILLE/SPARTANBURG WSPA, HARLINGEN KGBT, HARRISBURG/ LANCASTER WLYH, HARTFORD WTXX, HOUSTON KRIV, HUNTSVILLE WYLE, INDIANAPOLIS WTTV, JACKSON WJTV, JACKSON WMTU, JACKSONVILLE WNFT, JOHNSTOWN/ALTOONA WWCP, KANSAS CITY KSMO, KNOXVILLE WKXT, LAKE CHARLES KVHP, LAS VEGAS KUPN, LITTLE ROCK/PINE BLFF KASN, LOS ANGELES KNBC,LOUISVILLE WFTE, LUBBOCK KJTV, MACON WMGT, MADISON WISC, MASON CITY KIMT, MEMPHIS WHBQ, MEMPHIS WLMT, MIAMI/FT LAUDERDALE WBFS, MILWAUKEE WDJT, MINNEAPOLIS KMSP, MOBILE PENSACOLA WEAR, MONROE/EL DORADO KNOE, MONTGOMERY WCOV, NASHVILLE WXMT, NASHVILLE/HOPKINSVILLE WKAG, NEW ORLEANS WUPL, NEW YORK WCBS, NORFOLK WTVZ, OKLAHOMA CITY KOCB, ORLANDO WRBW, PHILADELPHIA WGBS, PHOENIX KTVK, PITTSBURGH WPTT, PORTLAND KEBN, PROVIDENCE WPRI, RALEIGH/DURHAM WKFT, SAN ANTONIO KABB, SANTA BARARA KSTB, SALISBURY WBOC, SAVANNAH WJCL, SPRINGFIELD KWBS, SYRACUSE WSYT, SHREVEPORT KTBS, ST LOUIS KDNL, TALLAHASSEE WCTV, TAMPA WTVT, TRI CITIES WKPT, UTICA WUPN, WACO/TEMPLE KCEN, WASHINGTON WDCA, W-B/SCRANTON PCTN, WEST PALM BEACH WTVX, WICHITA KWCH.

WCW PRO WRESTLING
ALBANY WSST, ALEXANDRIA KLAX, ATLANTA/LA GRANGE WGBN, BRANSON K05JQ, BUFFALO W58AV, BURLINGTON/PLATTSBURG WWIN, CHARLESTON WCIV, CHARLOTTE WFVT, CHARLOTTE/HICKORY WHKY, CHICAGO WCIU, CINCINATTI WBQC, CLEVELAND/AKRON WAKC, COLUMBUS WWHO, COLUMBUS WSWS, COLUMBUS TUPELO WCBI, DALLAS KDFI, EL PASO KJLF, EUGENE/ROSEBURG KROZ, FAYETTEVILLE WFAY, FLORENCE/MYRTLE BEACH WGSE, FT MYERS WSWF, FT WAYNE WFFT, GREENVILLE WFBC, HARLINGEN–SPANISH CLEARANCE KGBT, HATTIESBURG/LAUREL WHLT, HUNTSVILLE/DEC/FLO WYLE, INDIANAPOLIS WAV, JACKSONVILLE WNFT, KINGMAN KMOH, LOUISVILLE WBNA, MADISON WISC, MANCHESTER WMCH, MIAMI/FT LAUDERDALE WSVN, MILWAUKEE WVTV, MINNEAPOLIS KLGT, NASHVILLE WKZX, NASHVILLE WNAB, NASHVILLE/HOPKINSVILLE WKAG, NORFOLK/PORTSMOUTH WPEN, ORLANDO WRBW, PHOENIX KSAZ , PHOENIX KUSK, PORTLAND KEBN, RALEIGH/DURHAM WRDC, ROANOKE/ LYNCHBURG WSLS, SANTA BARBARA KSTB, SAVANNAH WTOC, SEATTLE/TACOMA KTZZ, SPOKANE KDQ, SPRINGFIELD KWBS, ST GEORGE KSGI, TAMPA/ST PETE/SAR WBSV, TAMPA WTTA, TOLEDO WWAP, WEST PALM BEACH WAQ.

WCW MAIN EVENT
ORLANDO WRBW.

CANADA

NITRO
HALIFAX CJCH, LONDON CFPL, MONTREAL CFCF, NORTH BAY CKNY, OTTAWA CJOH, PRINCE ALBERT CIPA, REGINA CKCK, SASKATOON CFQC, SAULT STE. MARIE CHBX, ST JOHN/MONCTON CKCW, SUDBURY CICI, SYDNEY/GL BAY CJCB, TIMMINS CITO, TORONTO CFTO, WHEATLEY CHWI, WINGHAM CKNX, WINNEPEG CKY, YORKTON CICC.
WCW PRO WRESTLING
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE CHMI.

EUROPE

(Check local listings as times vary. All times GMT)

NITRO
TNT FRIDAY 7pm

LIVE EVENT CALENDAR

Check out our calendar to find out when WCW will be coming to your area. Cities, arenas and dates are subject to change, so please check before you make your plans.

MAY

19 SLAMBOREE PPV, Baton Rouge, LA
20 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Monroe, LA
22 TV Taping, Gainesville, GA
27 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Macon, GA
29 TV Taping, Dalton, GA

JUNE

3 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Asheville, NC
5 TV Taping, Rome, GA
7 Buffalo, NY
8 Youngstown, OH
9 Johnstown, PA
10 TNT Monday Nitro Live, Wheeling,WV
12 TV Taping, Anderson, SC
14 Norfolk, VA
16 GREAT AMERICAN BASH PPV, Baltimore, MD

IN THE HOTSEAT

THE GIANT

Terry Taylor, the self-proclaimed "Mecca of Manhood," never reached his potential as a wrestler, be it here in WCW or during stints in the WWF. He never held championship gold in singles competition in either organization, despite the looks and skills of a winner. He was, it seems, always an inch away from victory, or a day late to sign a contract. Taylor is now 40, retired from active wrestling and working in WCW's front-office ... but he is also in the process of building the greatest Heavyweight Champion to ever wear a pair of wrestling boots. His name: The Giant.

You see, Taylor, despite his youthful appearance, has been involved in the wrestling world for about as long as The Giant has been alive. And Taylor's wrestling experience is being handed down daily to The Giant, a grappler who — believe it or not — hasn't even completed his first year of active duty. It was, remember, only last July — during the Bash at the Beach in Southern California — that we knew exactly which side of the fence this monster stood. Taylor is pushing The Giant to harness his peak athletic ability, to turn him into a fine-tuned championship machine. Taylor's work, learned exclusively by WCW Magazine, is done almost daily at WCW's Power Plant, the company's training ground for future stars in Atlanta. Taylor also is assisted in training The Giant by The Assassin, who runs the Power Plant, and — up until mid-February, believe it or not — by Diamond Dallas Page.

The Assassin, we have learned, helps hone The Giant's killer instinct, his brutality, his mental intensity — much like The Assassin had during his wrestling days. And DDP, we discovered, was instrumental with The Giant's philosophical/spiritual side of wrestling, how to toy with an opponent, how to have fun while an opponent suffers.

"My attitude nowadays is very simple, I do it for myself. Anyone who's with me, fine; anyone who's against me, fine. As for those three guys — Terry Taylor, The Assassin and Diamond Dallas Page — yeah, they have helped me at times, but, as goes with anyone else, if you cross The Giant, YOU WILL PAY," he said, with a sadistic smile covering his bearded face.

That includes Taskmaster Kevin Sullivan, who was The Giant's best — and first — friend in WCW. Sullivan was caught in the ring holding a chair on the final Monday Nitro in March, moments after The Giant was hit with a chair (by Arn Anderson), and The Giant choke-slammed Sullivan.

"When I turned around I saw Kevin Sullivan holding the chair," The Giant explained. "That choke-slam was the price he had to pay for

holding it, regardless if he did it or not; I don't care. If he didn't do it, he should have stopped (the attack). If he did it, he got what he deserved."

The Giant's choke-slam is, arguably, the best finisher in the business. Sure, Ric Flair has his figure-four leglock, "Macho Man" Randy Savage has his patented elbow-off-the-top-rope and Lex Luger has the torture rack, but, The Giant's slam is the most brutal, the most painful, the most effective.

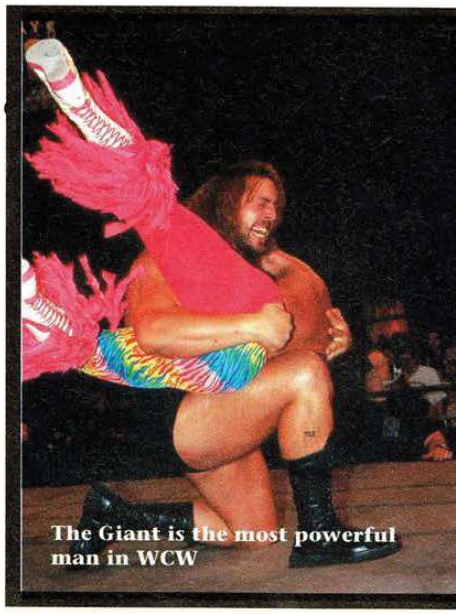
"The choke-slam is something that comes (from) deep inside of me," The Giant said. "To have the power and the strength to grab someone by their throat, hoist them above my head, then drive them through the mat as if they were something I was trying to wipe off my hand ... to me, it's the most destructive move out there."

And, for good measure, The Giant also has mastered a grueling neck-wrench, as Hulk Hogan will certainly attest.

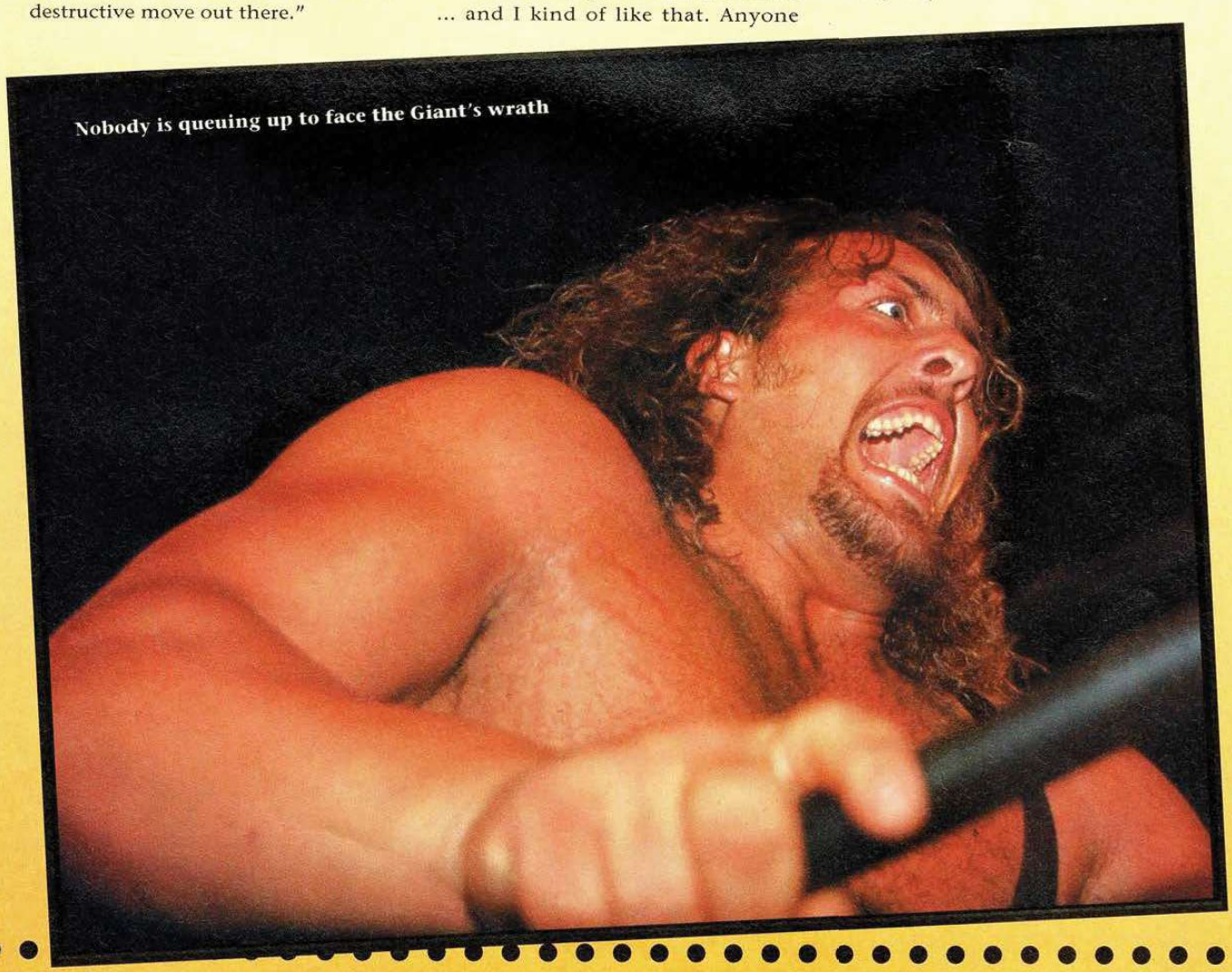
"The best way to destroy an opponent is to take out his breathing capacity, and that's accomplished by limiting a person's throat and neck. So, if I have to snap a person's neck, or crush it, I don't care. Whatever it takes is what I do," he said.

"I'm 7-foot-4, 450-pounds and as athletic as opponents half my size. My athleticism comes from some very intense training and some very gifted genetics, coupled with heart and intensity. I don't limit myself to what I can do; I use everything possible in the ring. When a person is in the ring with The Giant, they have to be ready on all four sides: north, south, east and west."

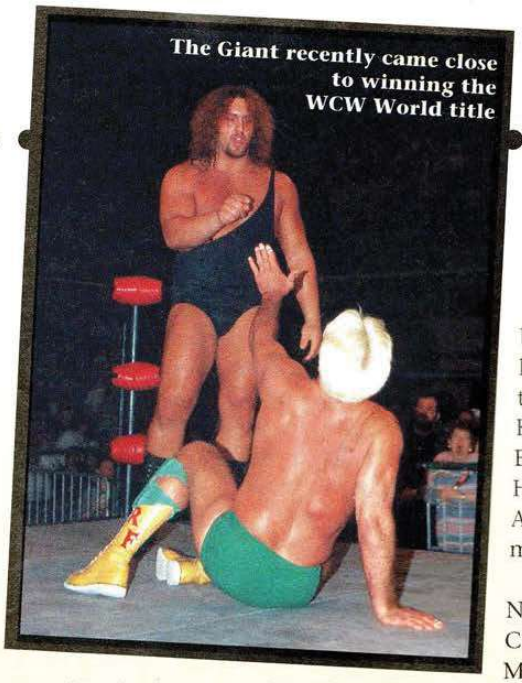
"I know the pain that I can inflict ... and I kind of like that. Anyone who has power can dominate an opponent, yeah, I enjoy that, like anyone else would as well in a similar situation. It's a king-like feeling knowing that your enemies are out there, that they are trying with all of their heart and muscle, yet, in the long-run, it's futile. I like to toy with my opponents, like a big cat (does).



The Giant is the most powerful man in WCW



Nobody is queuing up to face the Giant's wrath



The Giant recently came close to winning the WCW World title

"And, there is a lot of stuff — moves — that people haven't yet seen from me. I have a whole bag of tricks, for whenever I need it."

Such as?

"Well, I can't answer that, because then it wouldn't be in my bag of tricks, would it," The Giant snapped. "Let's just say, there are a multitude of moves, some very, very impressive moves that, when the time is right, they will be applied. There's a lot of moves in my arsenal that people might not expect from someone my size, such as a few kicks."

Said Dean Malenko, The Man of 1,000 holds, "As amazing as it may be, I don't think The Giant has even touched the surface of what he can achieve in this sport. At his age, he will, unquestionably be, a major player in the wrestling business for years to come."

THE GIANT IS ... YEAR-ROUND MARCH MADNESS!

When the NCAA basketball tournament pairings were announced last March, The Giant was glued to his television set, and he was quick to analyze each team. As the annual extravaganza rolled on, through the Kentucky-Syracuse title tilt, The Giant was watching.

Forget the fact baseball is the National Pastime, The Giant, is hooked on hoops.

"Basketball was a release for me when I was younger," The Giant explained. "Basketball was a way I dealt with being a freak; the way I dealt with being 6-foot-8, 245-pounds in eighth-grade. I had some success on the basketball court, but realized my heart wasn't into it, that the real thing I was meant to do — like King Arthur was meant to have Excalibur — was be the WCW Heavyweight Champion. And once I get it again, it's mine forever."

The Giant played center for Northern Oklahoma Junior College in 1990-91 under Coach Mick Wieberg. He was an All-Conference honoree who then transferred to Wichita State, a Division 1 program coached by Mike Cohen.

"I left basketball because I simply lost interest; it did not quench any thirst that I had," The Giant said.

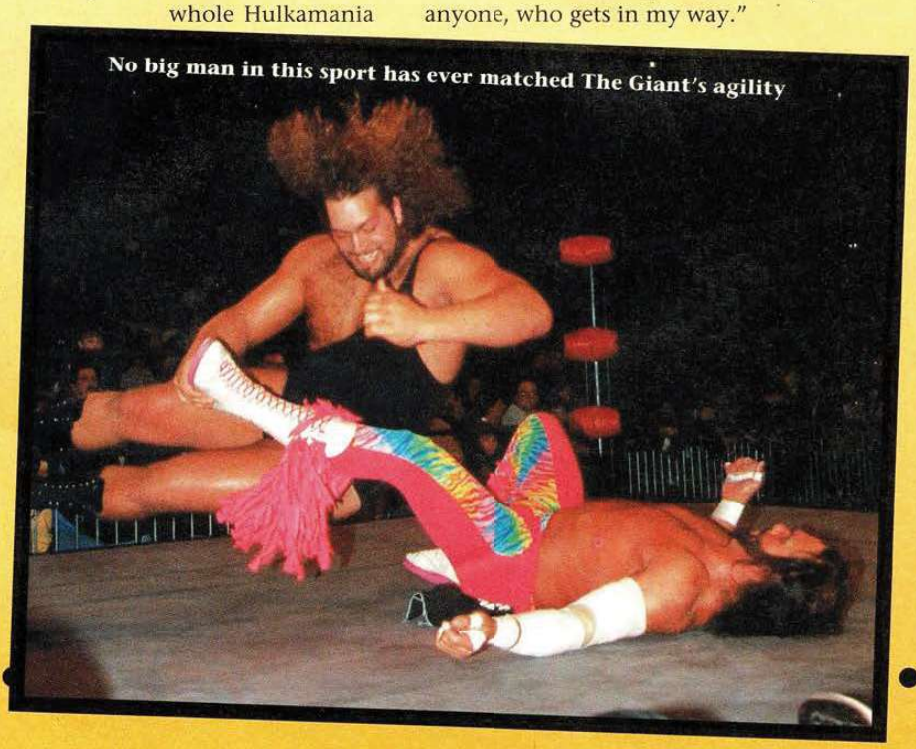
Enter World Championship Wrestling, where The Giant has made a Michael Jordan-like mark in a matter of months.

"I was enraged as a youth, classified as an outcast, a freak because of my size. When I was younger, I had a lot of rage and animosity, and I really had no idea how to deal with it," The Giant said. "When I was discovered by The Taskmaster, he helped me focus, hone in on what really was bothering me, and that was the whole Hulkamania image: the say your prayers, take your vitamins, and all of that other junk. It's all fairy tales, like the Tooth Fairy. Heck, I've left plenty of people's teeth under my pillow, yet I've never gotten a silver dollar."

"Hulk Hogan has always been a dominant force in professional wrestling and, although I hate to admit it, I have to give him credit and respect for being on top for as long as he has been. But, what Hogan couldn't have planned for was, running into the real immortal: The Giant. Things have only just begun for me; I'm on a tirade, a rampage that is going to shock the wrestling world. I'm going to set it back on its feet."

The Giant showed his potential in his first wrestling match — last October at Halloween Havoc in Detroit — when he left the arena with the Heavyweight Championship. (It was, mind you, stripped from him by WCW executives shortly thereafter.)

"I am dedicating all of my efforts this year to regaining the WCW Heavyweight Championship belt," he said. "At this point, I think the best thing The Giant can do is, do what The Giant really believes in, and that's look out for himself. And that means, crush anyone, absolutely anyone, who gets in my way."



No big man in this sport has ever matched The Giant's agility

Even anyone — believe it or not — bigger than him. Like The Giant did to Loch Ness at Uncensored.

"A lot of opponents like to show, play or act as if they are as psychologically-dangerous and/or intense as I am ... guys such as Ric Flair," The Giant said. "But no one affects me. I'm not scared of anyone. The way I'm looking at things is very simple, and I certainly hope everyone hears me on this: the person with the WCW Heavyweight Championship is the one I want to wrestle. No one else."

The Giant has also thought about tag team wrestling in WCW and admitted that, at times, "the tag team situation is a lot more fun than singles action, mainly because there's more to destroy." But, he added, "I don't need anyone's help; I kind of like handicap matches, me against another tag team." The Giant even went so far as to say that he doesn't even need a partner to handle some of the teams out there, like The Road Warriors, The Steiner Brothers and Harlem Heat.

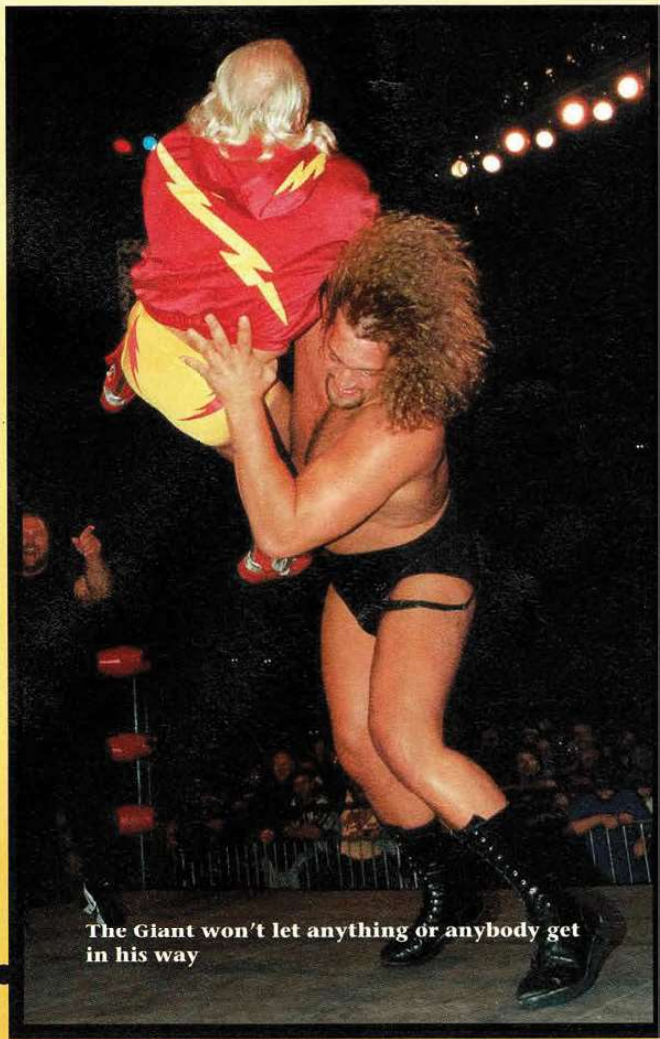
"Heck, you could team me with Mean Gene Okerlund and I'd still have the World Tag Team Championship belts — and Gene wouldn't even have to leave the broadcast booth," he said.

So where is The Giant headed? We say Championship glory, hands down. Unless, of course, there's too many hands-on contributions from Kevin Sullivan and Co.

Here are The Giant's views on various WCW personalities:

STING
"Great athletic prowess."
SGT. CRAIG PITTMAN
"Fantastic intensity."
TEDDY LONG
"Don't care."
JUMPIN' JOEY MAGGS
"Who?"
ERIC BISCHOFF
"A good-looking guy ... I'd like to share a prison cell with him."
NICK LAMBROS
"Who cares?"
BOBBY "THE BRAIN" HEENAN
"The best."
"MEAN" GENE OKERLUND
"Decent."
TONY SCHIAVONE
"Timid."
COL. ROBERT PARKER
"Hilarious."
"MACHO MAN" RANDY SAVAGE
"An incredible heart."
HACKSAW JIM DUGGAN
"A few cards short of a full deck."
KEVIN SULLIVAN
"110 percent evil."
SCOTT NORTON
"He's one strong man."
DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE
"Gooood gawd."
ONE MAN GANG
"Nice chain."
BROTHER BOOTY
"I had one friend in the Dungeon of Doom, someone who I thought was looking out for me, someone who I thought I could trust. It was very sad, very disheartening to learn that he was a spy for Hulk Hogan. The two of us were very close, as close as any two competitors could get when striving for the same goal."

MENG
"Deadly."
HUGH MORRUS
"Funny."
THE BARBARIAN
"Relentless."
RIC FLAIR
"A psychological master in the ring."
HARLEM HEAT
"Dedicated and talented."
LEX LUGER
"Pretty boy."
"MR. WONDERFUL" PAUL ORNDORFF
"Tough."
STEVE GRISSOM
"He's a pretty good driver, so good that he could even drive my Dungeon of Doom truck."
PUBLIC ENEMY
"Nuts."
KIMBERLY
"Gorgeous."
AMERICAN MALES
"Too cute to be a threat."
ARN ANDERSON
"One of the sneakiest players around."
BRIAN PILLMAN
"Aggravating parasite."
ROAD WARRIORS
"Smooth operators."
HULK HOGAN
"Soon to be retired."
STEVE McMICHAEL
"A Bobby Heenan wanna-be."
MADUSA
"Could be the next Mrs. Giant
DAVE PENZER
"Who cares."



The Giant won't let anything or anybody get in his way

Kick Wrestle & Roll WITH MADUSA

First, I want to say "thanks" to everyone who has made this column possible. I appreciate this opportunity to express my views ... remember, they are my views and not what someone else thinks I'm thinking.

Letters from you are welcome and some of them will be answered in the magazine. (Sorry, space limitations won't allow me to answer every letter.)

This will be the most unique column ever in pro wrestling, I guarantee that. It will be the TRUTH as I see things.

As you can tell, I am — and will continue to be — opinionated. For instance, magazine writers from other federations — and most general wrestling magazines, for that matter — are frauds, dog wallop at best. They need to take Journalism 101 at their local community college, or even a high school version, because, plain and simply, the course includes the art of interviewing — something they seem to conveniently forget.

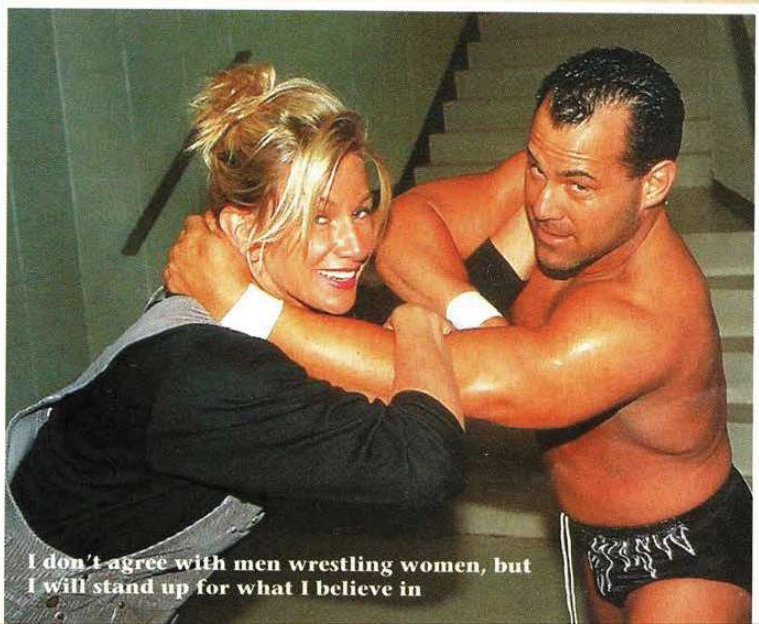
Let's move now to "the Brain", Bobby Heenan, who, last month took a shot at my column, even before it appeared. Imagine that. Anyway, I will say that women certainly have a place in WCW and the WCW Magazine, and not just for the sexual effect. Sure, beauty is important, especially for the women in pro wrestling, but, a lot of us — most of us — are also very talented. We possess sex appeal and athleticism, something not all of the men in this sport can claim.

And I'm not just talking about wrestlers, Mr. Heenan.

My mailbag is still full of letters about my controversial debut on Monday Nitro. It seems as though some people believe I did something wrong. But, I got your attention, didn't I? That's called shock value. And isn't that what every wrestler wants. You see my lovelies, as opposed to the male wrestlers, I cannot make you respect me with displays of strength and size; I can only do what I believe is the best for me.

I receive a lot of letters commenting on my strength, talent and position as a role-model ... that means a lot to me. I'm very proud of that recognition, and I try to maintain it on a daily basis. I enjoy offering guidance for today's youth, and will continue to do so. For some though, that's hard to do. The thought of slowing down or retiring is unheard of, even though it shouldn't be. After all, WCW is a shark-infested pool. Follow me? Great! If not, go grab the new Metallica CD and bang your head on the floor until you see the picture.

I've now got a little personal data to share with you ... I've been a pro for 11 years, which includes time here in the U.S., Japan and Thailand (for kick-boxing). Yep, I am an avid kick-boxer as well. I also am a regular weight-lifter. I have won numerous wrestling awards that other women only dream of winning, such as: Rookie of the Year, Match of the Year, etc. I appear on posters and T-shirts. I am single without any children. And I'm not going anywhere else for a long time!!



I don't agree with men wrestling women, but I will stand up for what I believe in

Why do I bring all of this up? For the simple reason that, if anyone wants a shot at me, be it Manami Toyota, Akira Hokuto, Bull Nakano, Ric Flair or "Macho Man" Randy Savage, bring it on. I'm ready, willing and able. I don't back down from anyone — never have, never will. I blaze my own path ... Madusa.

There are more fans who support me now that I'm in WCW than anytime in my career. That, to me, says a lot about WCW. I'm starting out as an equal, and that's fine with me. I'm not some hussy sitting on the president's leg. I have seen women wrestlers come and go over the years and very few can stand in the ring with me. That's something I'm quite proud of. I've never had to cheat, steal, beg or borrow on my way to the top. I strictly fight. I fight for what I believe in — for pride, dignity and honor, among other things.

Let's move back now to Uncensored, the March pay-per-view from Mississippi. The cage-match main event was unbelievable live in the arena; it was devastating. It was without question the most amazing cage I have ever seen.

As for my match with Col. Robert Parker, which included Parker-needed assistance from Dick Slater, well, I really don't agree with female/male wrestling, but justice must be done!

I really hope the 1997 Uncensored has more speciality matches ... like wrestling over a pool of sharks or 'gators!

Slamboree is the May extravaganza and, as a close friend of mine said, 'Wouldn't it be great to see Madusa and Loch Ness paired together for the Lethal Lottery ... it'd be beauty and the beast.' I couldn't agree more.

GOSSIP FLASH: The wife of a top WCW male wrestler is pregnant! Congratulations. Another future champ, no doubt.

Here are a couple of closing thoughts, folks, and it doesn't matter which bathroom door you enter: Love thyself before you love another ... Always tell the truth, even if it stings for a moment; lies last forever. See you next month, and keep the letters coming.

Ciao!

Madusa

HotliNe

MARK MADDEN

DISCLAIMER: This column features the comments and thoughts of Mark Madden. WCW Magazine nor WCW endorse or agree with his opinions and any complaints should be made to the man himself.

Selected thoughts following an April Fool's Monday Nitro in Cleveland:

Lex Luger is finally himself.

Luger's manic personality switches started out as a sort of a joke on himself, recognizing the fact that he's gone back and forth between loved and hated so many times during his career. Then they became sort of a joke on Sting, as Luger acted evil when Sting wasn't around and good when Sting was. But now they're anything but a joke. This is Lex Luger.

Moody.

Smiling one minute, glaring the next.

Multi-dimensional.

And wrestling better than ever.

Luger's tainted pinfall loss to WCW World Champion Ric Flair at Nitro on April 1 was a fine showing on his part. You know, when you can just go out there and be yourself, putting all you concentration into your performance instead of worrying about how you'll be perceived, you will be better.

That's been Flair's secret, actually.

And when you think about it, who among us is totally good or bad? Wrestlers tend to push themselves to one extreme or the other as they strive to make a name for themselves.

It's kind of refreshing to see someone like Luger ignore the temptation to become a parody of himself and just go out there and do his job.

And it's kind of refreshing to see Lex Luger be so faithful to his best friend. I mean, Luger will do anything for the guy. Change his ways. Alter his style. Dump Jimmy Hart as his manager. I have absolutely no doubt that Luger would go to the ends of the earth if it would benefit his best friend.

Oh, I'm sorry. Did you think I meant Sting?

No way!

Lex Luger's best friend — his only friend — is Lex Luger.

Like I said, he's finally himself.

You may not like it. I do.

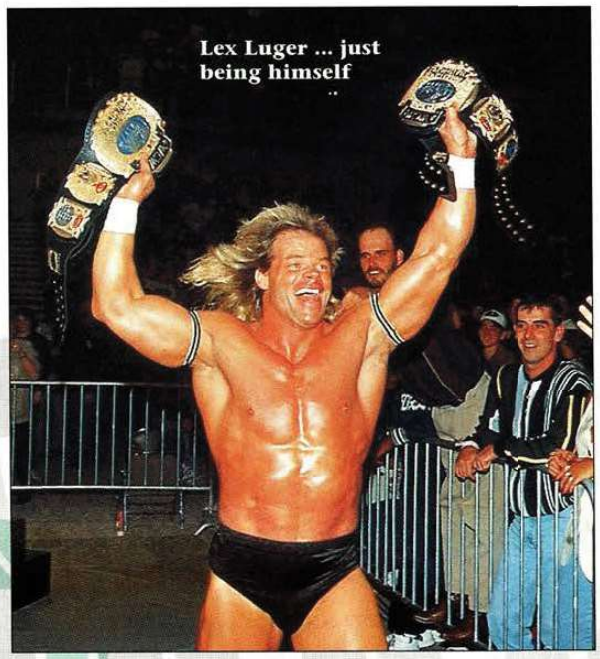
Speaking of which, when someone fools Sting, then turns on him, is that even news anymore? That's par for the course with Forrest Sting.

The Friday preceding the Cleveland Nitro, Ric Flair spoke at the annual Dapper Dan Charities sports banquet in my hometown, Pittsburgh. The banquet is sponsored by One of America's Great Newspapers, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and is considered one of the nation's most prestigious events of its kind.

Flair was a hit.

Hey, he is what's causin' all this, remember?

At last year's banquet, 1994 Olympic Greco-Roman wrestling gold medalist Jeff Blatnick was less than complimentary toward pro-wrestling in general and toward Flair in particular during his speech, spurring a suicidal in-your-face confrontation by myself and a year's worth of hotline insults for Blatnick.



Lex Luger ... just being himself

This year Blatnick and Flair made peace. Blatnick interacted jovially with me, a nice gesture even if I didn't buy it for a second.

Blatnick even praised Flair in his speech.

It's enough to kill a guy's hotline.

But current Olympian Bruce Baumgartner filled the void.

Baumgartner, apparently pretty famous as an amateur wrestler — like most people, I really don't follow that stuff — made it a point at the banquet's afterparty to say that he was a wrestler, Flair a "rassler." Then he went on to say that he could defeat the Steiner Brothers and Craig Pittman, all accomplished amateur wrestlers before they got tired of being broke.

Not one at a time. At the same time.

Is it being an amateur your whole life that makes you stupid? Is it doing something that precious few people care about?

Whatever the cause, I've seen the symptoms. Baumgartner is a moron.

You know, the Olympics are in Atlanta, corporate home of WCW.

Wouldn't it be something if, just before Baumgartner's gold medal match — which he will get to, because he is good — wouldn't it be something if the Steiners and Pittman ran in? And kicked his sorry amateur butt?

Hey, it was his idea.

On my wildly popular WCW hotline segment each and every Wednesday and Friday, I've instituted a special va-va-voom section in which I discuss the women of pro-wrestling in general and WCW in particular. I, er, did research for this section during my Nitro trip to Cleveland, at one point sitting in close proximity to Woman, Elizabeth and the Booty Girl at the same time.

But I got tired of being ignored and talked to Terry Taylor instead. (Ed's Note: Not quite the same is it?)

The va-va-voom section is but one of my rotating features on my hotline segments. In the past, I've focused on various luminaries — even Hulk Hogan — in the hopes of making their lives miserable, or, in the case of the va-va-voom section, with an eye on getting beautiful women to pay attention to me.

Hasn't worked. Probably won't.

Anyway, nothing — and I mean nothing — tops my Joey Maggs section.

I heard from a reliable source that the Balti-moron was denigrating me and what I do — make WCW money, which he doesn't — in the dressing room in front of the wrestlers, so I've been taking a little bit of each hotline to put him in his place, which is the verbal equivalent of on his back for a three-count.

A not unfamiliar position for him, as you know.

At any rate, I've revealed all of Maggs' trade secrets. That the only thing Teddy Long has taught him is to face the camera when he's getting pinned. That his trunks say 'Never Say Die,' but that was a mistake — they were supposed to say 'Never say Diet." That he once mistakenly kicked out of a pinfall while he was on top because he was unfamiliar with that position.

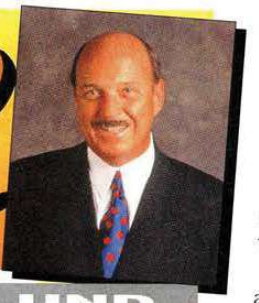
That he sucks, which you didn't need to call my hotline to find out. I mean the guy's on the canvas more than Rembrandt.

Me, Mark Madden — the WCW Hotline's most diverse performer.

By the way, getting back to that va-va-voom section, it looks as if some of the Booty Girl's body parts almost have a mind of their own.Which is more than the Booty Man can say.

Mark Madden hosts the WCW Hotline updates on a Wednesday and Friday

BUZZ



MEAN GENE OKERLUND

When the superstars of World Championship Wrestling do battle on May 19 at Slamboree, live on pay-per-view from Baton Rouge, La., it will have special meaning for referee Randy Anderson.

You see, back in 1980, in Baton Rouge, while working for Mid-South Wrestling, Anderson, er, "PeeWee," as he has been known since he was 9-years-old, officiated his first wrestling match. It was a battle between the Junk Yard Dog and Ted DiBiase, won by the Dog.

PeeWee, now 35, has since been the third man in the ring (or fifth for tag matches) for more matches than he can count. He and Nick Patrick are the men of law-and-order for WCW.

"This is the greatest business I could have possibly ever gotten into," said Anderson, who now lives in Atlanta. "I enjoy the traveling that goes with the job and meeting the fans. Being in WCW is like being in high school once again ... it's like I'm part of a team."

And Anderson certainly speaks from experience. In 1975, Anderson captured the 1975 Minnesota State Championship at 98-pounds. Sure, you can joke that he was a 98-pound weakling, as I did, but, do you have a state championship medal as he does?

"After high school, I was too small to wrestle anymore, but, I always enjoyed pro wrestling and since Arn Anderson and I were best friends since age 14, I pursued a career in pro wrestling," he said.

He started as a driver for JYD ... and the rest is history.

"I take a lot of pride in being a referee and I think everyone who knows me — be it Double-A or my good friend Earl Robert — knows that, hey, when that bell rings, I am strictly a referee, fair and impartial, regardless of our friendship," Anderson said.

"I have been in (the ring) for some great matches, ones I'll never forget." Here's a look at some of his favorites:

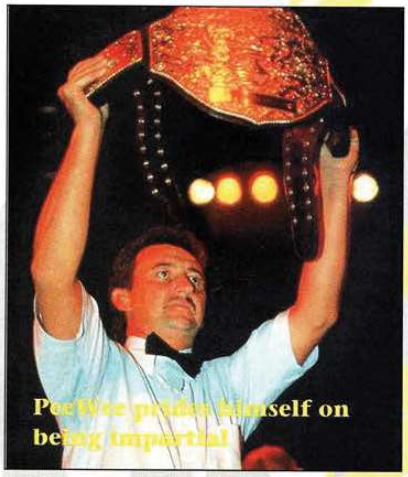
Hulk Hogan vs. Ric Flair; June, 1994, Orlando, Fla.

"That was one of the most electric matches I have ever witnessed, featuring the two greatest wrestlers we'll ever see."

Sting vs. Ric Flair; 1984, Greensboro, N.C.

Von Erichs vs. Freebirds; 1984, New Orleans.

"There are so many things needed to be a 'good referee,' starting with the little things like knowing where you are in the ring at all times," Anderson said. "Plus, you've gotta have a love for the sport, and a desire to be out there."



PeeWee prides himself on being impartial

Anderson, who weighs about 170 pounds, says he doesn't fear any of the combatants, even those who are as much as four-times his size. And he doesn't let the wrestlers' egos interfere with his work.

"Being a referee isn't as easy as one might think," Anderson said. "Vader was once suplexed onto me and I blew out my right knee; I was out of action for several months. And then there was the time several years ago during a big match in Milwaukee when Rick Steiner accidently suplexed me; man was that painful."

Anderson, you might not have known, has been out of the ring for parts of the past six months as he's being treated for testicular cancer, much like former major league baseball player John Kruk.

"I had 20 radiation treatments and am now good as new; everything is A-OK," Anderson reported in April. "I urge all men to get checked out because it's something that can affect any of us."

"I've received over 700 calls of encouragement since people learned I had it, and I want to thank each and every one of you."

Speaking for everyone at WCW, best wishes for continued success, "PeeWee," you're one of a kind.

Now on to some other news ...

Rumor has it that "Mouth of the South" Jimmy Hart is working feverishly — as always — to produce a new album. But, it won't have anything to do with The Gentry's, the rock group of the 1960s that Jimmy sang for. Instead, my sources say it will feature the entrance music for several WCW superstars, and there will be music videos for each a la MTV. I asked Jimmy about it and that little runt, er, manager snapped, "I'll tell you about my business when, and only when, I feel you need to know."

"Das Wunderkind" Alex Wright will appear soon on the "Harald Schmidt Show" in his native Germany. The show is a top-rated late-night talk-fest much like "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno.

"Macho Man" Randy Savage did the voice-over work for the villain on "Dial M For Monkey" which appeared April 21 on The Cartoon Network.

Hulk Hogan's new movie, "The Secret Agent's Club," is set to be released in the late-summer or early-fall. I understand it is similar to the mega-popular movie "True Lies."

For some reason, it seems as though Bobby Heenan gets offended when I call him a 'Fountain of Misinformation.' And he's repeatedly asked that I stop. So, I will, but, I now bequeath him the title 'Geyser of Garbage.' I hope he's happy.

Sgt. Craig Pittman and his manager, Teddy Long, participated in a Hamburger and Steak Dinner for the Atlanta Boy's Club in March. I personally would like to congratulate Sgt. Pittman for turning his life around. He is a Marine the world can be proud of.

The Giant appears in television advertisements for the California Lottery.

Sting appeared on the nationally-syndicated show "Crook & Chase," and clips were later featured on "Talk Soup."

Just how impressive is Monday Nitro? Consider the March 25th show, which drew a 3.1 rating in face of strong competition from the Academy Awards show on one of the major networks.

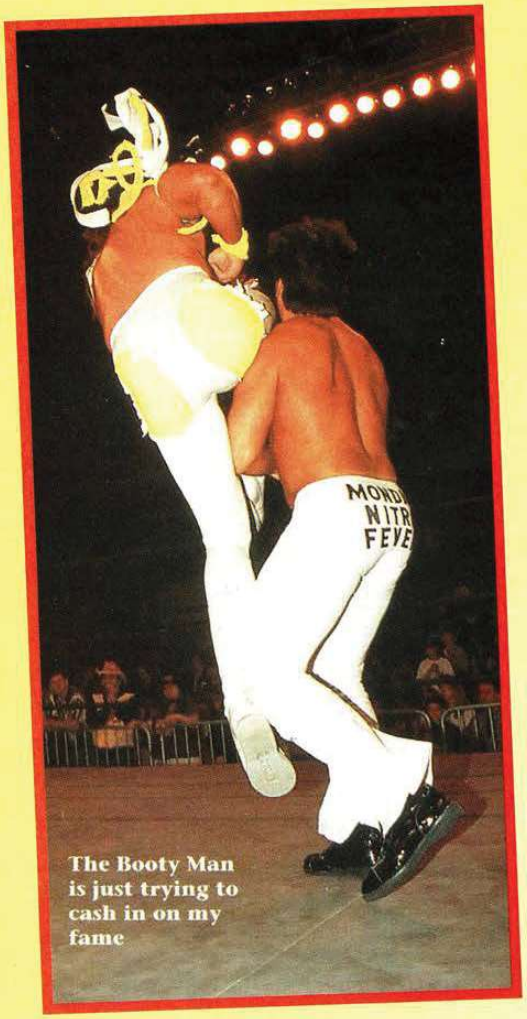
Finally, here's from the 'If You Thought It Was Safe To Drive Again Department' ... WCW's Hulkamania, Dungeon of Doom and a new Sting monster truck will compete in a seven-stop tour, beginning May 17 and running through November. The monster trucks will appear in such cities as Springfield, Mo.; Canfield, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.; Indianapolis, Ind., and Lima, Ohio.

Until next month, may all your fastballs be of Nolan Ryan-status. See you next month.

Mean Gene Okerlund is the co-host of the weekly WCW Main Event program on TBS. You can also hear him every Saturday on the WCW Hotline.

When he first arrived on the scene in WCW we hailed hi obviously believed the hard part was just getting here, b frequently cited when his name is mentioned. So WCW Ma

GET A MANAGE


The Booty Man is just trying to cash in on my fame

Look at the pictures on these pages. What do you see? A young man wearing a dated white suit, who believes he is the greatest and most popular wrestler of all time. Loved by all the fans and envied by every wrestler. The truth as we understand it, couldn't be more different.

Even the wrestlers he calls friends, like the American Males and Public Enemy only keep him around because he is an easy target for their practical jokes.

Dean Malenko, the veteran wrestler known as 'The Man of 1,000 Holds,' has seen countless wrestlers come and go over the years.

He's seen big wrestlers, small wrestlers and in-between-sized wrestlers. He's seen 'em with loads of heart, no heart, loads of talent, no talent, and he's seen them throughout the world; that's here in the U.S. and throughout Japan, among other places.

Disco Inferno is one wrestler who Malenko will never forget.

"If Disco was even half as worried about working out in the gym or practicing new moves as he is about his hair, yeah, he could be a major force," Malenko says, shaking his head.

Disco Inferno, you see, isn't just stuck in a time warp, he's stuck in a fantasy land of his own creation. Consider Disco's opinion on the late-March Monday Nitro loss to The Booty Man:

"I reviewed that match on tape and, yes, I had the Booty Man beat until the Booty Babe, Kimberly, came out there and handed him a foreign object. He hit me with it and that's when the tide turned in the match," Disco said, as he primped his flawless hair. "I'm not certain what the foreign object was; I didn't get a good look at it. It probably was a tire-iron, or a monkey wrench or maybe just a pair of brass-knuckles. But he did a number on me."

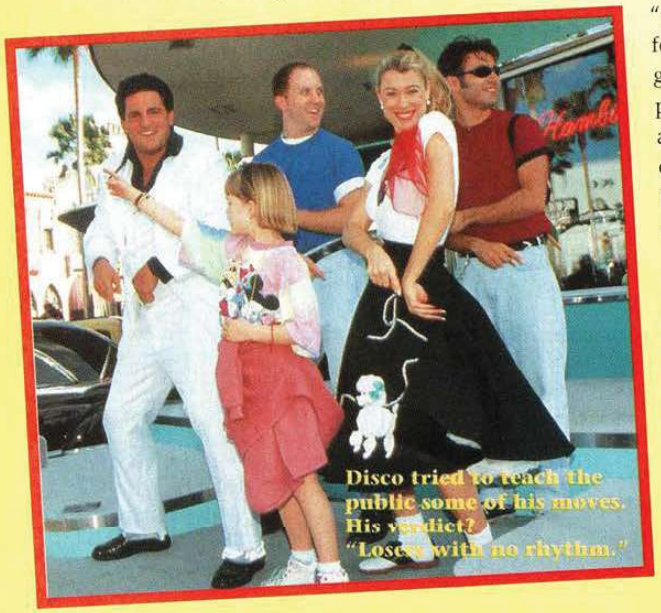
Huh?

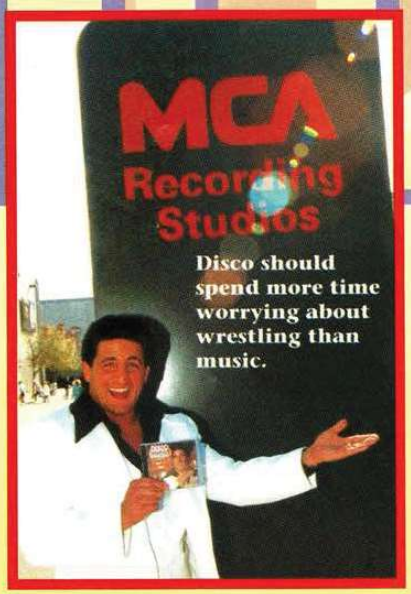
"Let me tell you a little more about the Booty Man," Disco continued, "he is simply another wrestler jumping on the bandwagon of success that the Disco Inferno has had, and that's pretty obvious by his name. The Booty Man is, naturally, trying to steal all of my thunder, but he can't. I'm the original. And, ya know, my guess is, you'll probably see more people trying to copy Disco Inferno. My guess is, we'll start seeing wrestlers calling themselves Mr. Booty, The Masked Booty or maybe a tag team known as The Booty Boys."

Disco also claims that Kimberly has been writing him anonymous letters, "much like so many other women from around the world." He says letters from Kimberly arrive at his New York home "at least twice-a-week," and they often include questions about my stylish clothing, my stylish boots and my vast knowledge of disco."

Yes, we once again must ask ourself, Huh?

"I have been in WCW since last August and one thing is very clear, there is a lot of red tape here in this organization. Those front-office quacks are simply trying to keep me down. They know my potential, but don't want me to reach it," Disco said. "Still, I think I've had a tremendous amount of success to date and what I've found is, my performance has been irrefutable and incontrovertible. My record is outstanding ..."

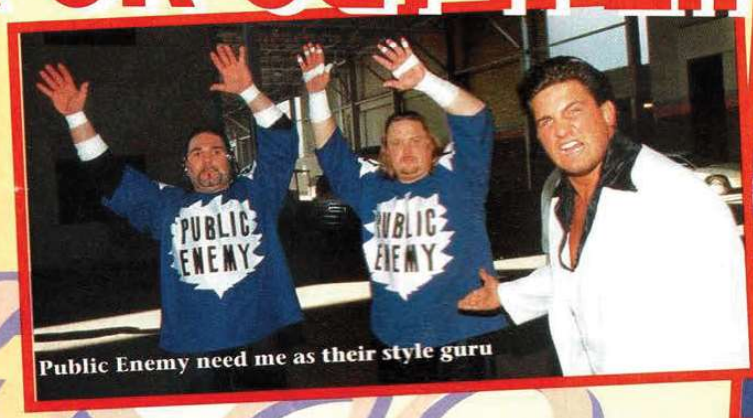

Disco tried to teach the public some of his moves. His verdict? "Losers with no rhythm."



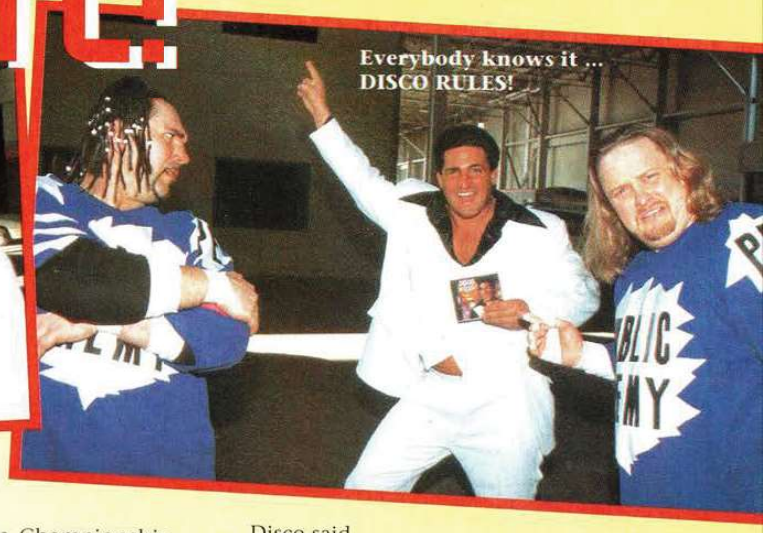
Disco should spend more time worrying about wrestling than music.

as the star to watch in 1996. Unfortunately Disco Inferno ause since his arrival the word underachiever is the most azine has the following words of advice for Disco Inferno...

R OR GET A LIFE!



Public Enemy need me as their style guru


Everybody knows it ... DISCO RULES!

At this point, we interrupted Disco, to show him his win-loss record since January. You see, during the first quarter of the year, well, let's just say that you could count his wins on one hand — and still have enough fingers remaining to flash the peace sign.

"Hey, whoa, don't get your eight-tracks into an uproar ... let me tell you what's happening here in WCW," Disco began, "I've got a nearly flawless record in all of my matches, but, the WCW front-office is doctoring the tapes that they are sending out into syndication. Somehow, with the technology that we have today in the 1990s as opposed to my era, the 1970s, they doctor the tapes so it looks like I actually lose the match. That's really keeping me down. Trust me; I'm telling the truth."

"Seeing that you brought up 1996, let me tell you my New Year's Resolution: to be the WCW World Heavyweight Championship. Yep, The Champion. And, I don't know why the Championship Committee has not yet given me a title shot. It makes no sense why guys like Hulk Hogan, Randy Savage or Lex Luger get title shot after title shot. Let's look at it from a boxing perspective, it's not like Mike Tyson and George Foreman fight each other five or six times per month for the title. It's one shot, then the next guy. And I should be that next guy."

So why is Disco Inferno passed over for championship matches? Simple, he says: "WCW Commissioner Nick Bullwinkel does not like me."

Disco Inferno would, no doubt, be an interesting opponent for, say, Hulk Hogan, Ric Flair or "Macho Man" Randy Savage, because, if you look past all of his shenanigans, the New York native does possess an intriguing combination of technical skill and strength.

"Much the way Dean Malenko is the man of 1,000 holds, I am the man of 1,000 moves. I've got more disco moves than he has wrestling holds. And, in the long run, that will work to my advantage," Disco said. "What I've found out during my months here in WCW is, fans don't wanna watch Sting, Hulk Hogan, Lex Luger or any of those losers. They wanna see Disco Inferno!"

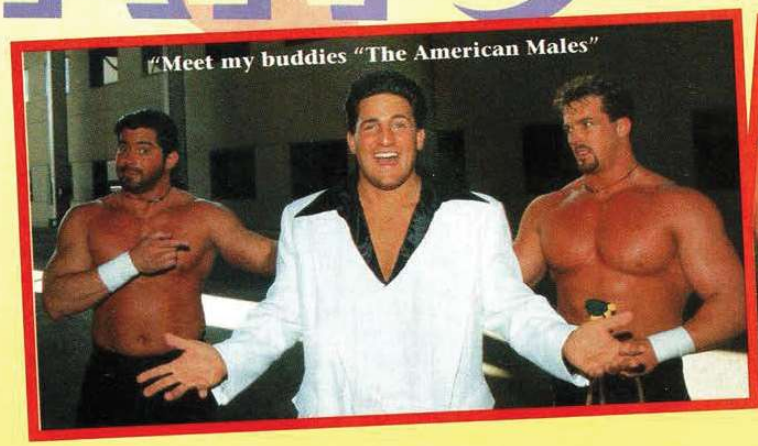
Disco said numerous times during the course of this 60-minute interview that he is looking long and hard for a manager, but hasn't found one he would trust over the ever-busy Jimmy Hart.

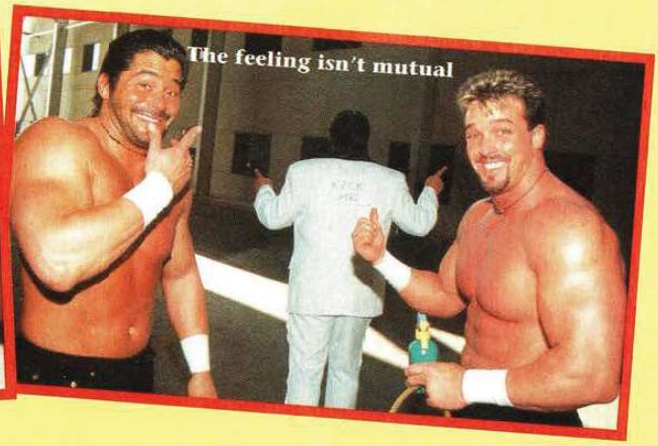
"Jimmy has had success with everyone he's managed, regardless of the number of people who have turned their back on him, such as Hulk Hogan and Lex Luger," Disco said. "Jimmy is the type of manager who could really help the Disco Inferno. He'd take the time to manage my career effectively — and I'm the kind of guy who would appreciate it and I wouldn't turn my back on him."

So what is Disco Inferno's future in WCW? Will he be championship caliber as he claims?

Nah, we don't think so.

He is, probably, just a one-hit-wonder who lingers and lingers and lingers. But only time will tell.

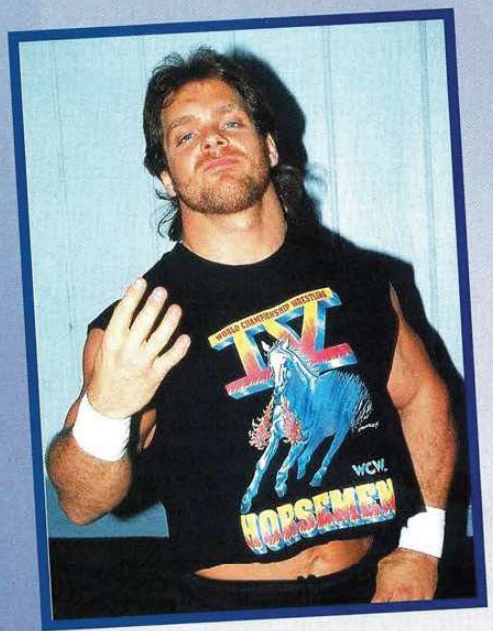

Meet my buddies "The American Males"


The feeling isn't mutual

WCW 2000: THE FUTURE OF WRESTLING

With the new millennium approaching, a whole new breed of wrestling fans has evolved, with a whole new set of ideals. They like their action hard-hitting, high-flying and they are turning to WCW television shows and pay-per-views to find it. WCW Magazine decided to catch up with the faces of the future, the wrestlers who will be the champions in the year 2000 and beyond.

As a child growing up in the 1970s, Eddie Guerrero had plenty of tutors: three brothers (Chavo, Mando and Hector), all of whom were already pro wrestlers, and, of course, their father, Gory, an accomplished grappler during his day. The family's home in El Paso, Texas, had (and still has) a ring in the backyard — not a swimming pool. Eddie still visits his mom, Linda, regularly and always toils in the ring. Things haven't changed much for the electrifying superstar who now spells home, WCW.



"I grew up watching so many second-generation wrestlers, such as my father, so, the moves I do in the ring are kind of natural, simply part of my style," he said. "I first learned, or at least practiced, most of the moves on my dad's bed — with family members around supporting me. My brother Mando and I also would go outside, where he'd put me on the roof of the house and then would have me jump off, and he would catch me."

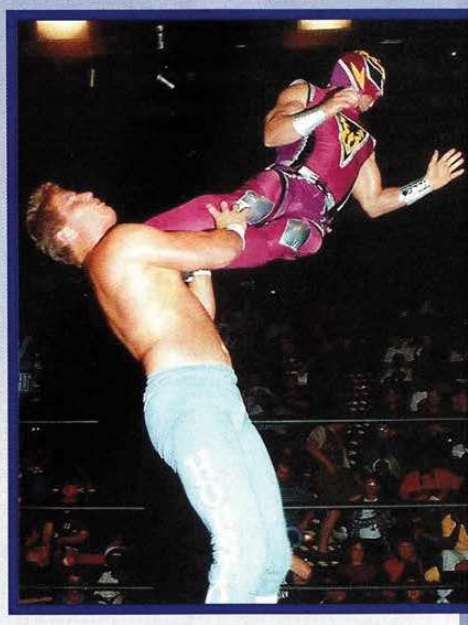
And so was born one of WCW's "Future Generation of Grapplers," a contingent that includes, among others, Chris Benoit, Dean Malenko, J.L., The Giant, "Das Wunderkind" Alex Wright and Konan.

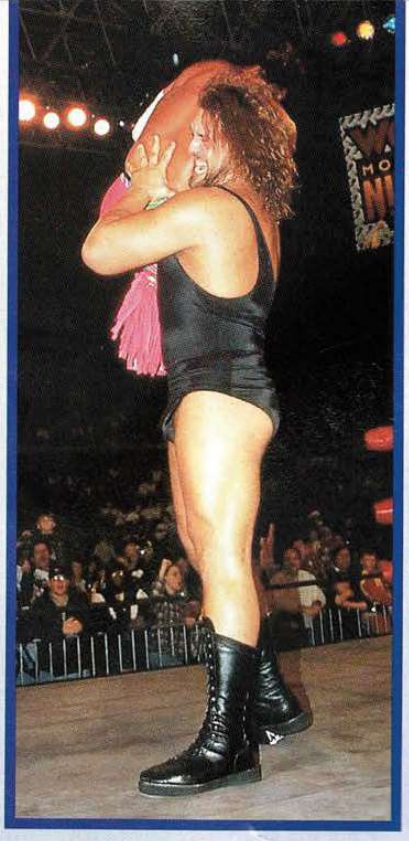
These are wrestlers who, through their in-ring action, most of which is high-flying, risk-taking, to say the least, have earned a slogan. It's not just a slogan slapped over the masses by a bunch of coat-and-tie characters.

Let's take a brief look at some of them.

In Chris Benoit you have arguably one of the greatest wrestlers in the world today. A man who is equally at ease with heavier opponents as he is with the lighter men he frequently wrestles. The only thing that holds Benoit back is his attitude and his choice of allies. He is frequently undone when his arrogance gets the better of him and he loses concentration for that split second.

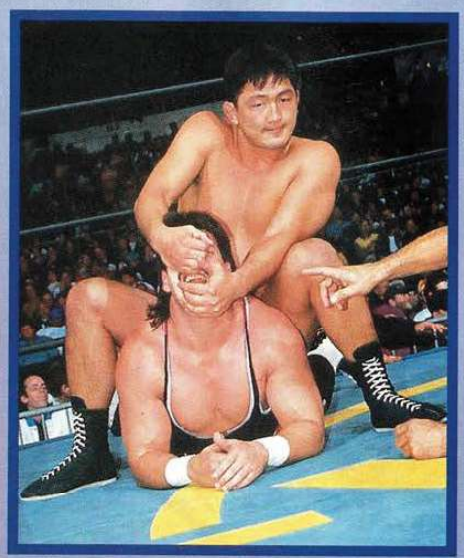
J.L. has proven time and time again that size does not matter. He frequently bombards his opponents with a bewildering range of high-speed, high flying maneuvers that leave them dizzy.





The Giant is undoubtedly a World Champion in the making. At 7-foot-4 not many men will be able to stop him, but being big does not guarantee success. However just watch this man in action. He can wrestle. Dropkicks, top rope splashes and competent matwork ... the scariest part about the Giant is there is no limit to how good he can be.

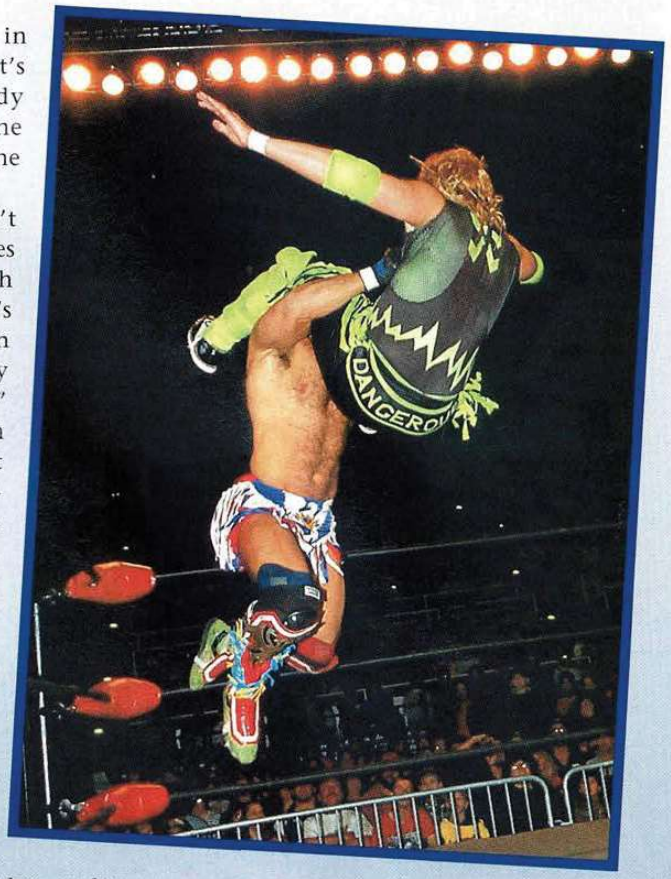
Thanks to WCW's innovative cross-promotional agreements, you also have U.S. Champion Konan and the other luchadores from Mexico's AAA competing alongside the stars of New Japan. Stars who gave a great account of themselves at Starrcade '95 and during the Cruiserweight tournament with Shinjiro Ohtani leading the way.



Yes, the competition in WCW isn't just fierce, it's global with everybody putting their necks on the line as they aim to top the rankings in WCW.

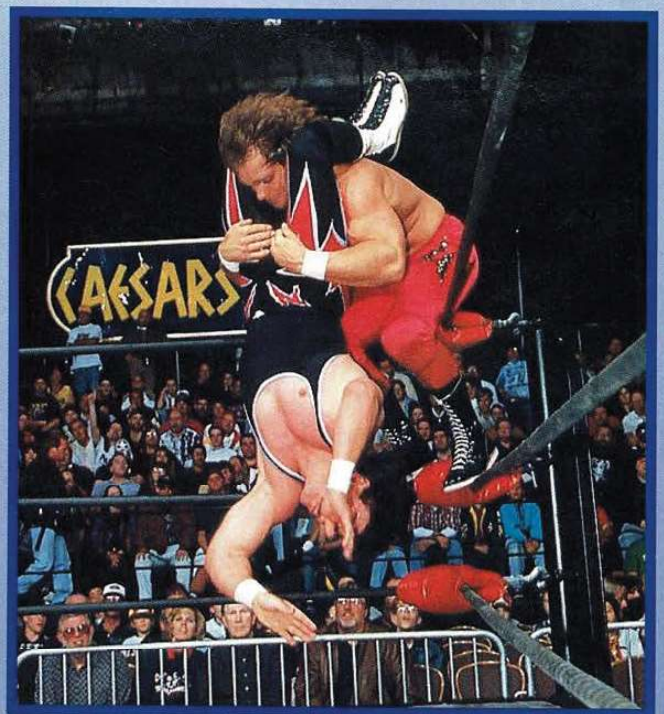
"Personally, I don't consider most of my moves 'high-risk,' even though most others do. But that's because I've grown up with them as part of my wrestling repertoire," Guerrero said. "When you're up there, in front of a standing-room-only crowd with your adrenaline pumping, you don't really think about a move ... you just do it."

And for Guerrero, that starts, er, ends with his patented jack-knife splash off the top rope, a move that vaults him, oh, 15 feet in the air onto a prone opponent. The 1-2-3 is often the only remaining matter of business at that point.



"Any time you leave your feet during a match, there is a risk you're going to get hurt. And that could me during a suplex, dropkick or, obviously, any move off the third rope," Guerrero said. "Of course I quiver at a lot of the moves I see, but that doesn't mean I hold back. I just make sure I know everything I'm doing inside the ring. I always make sure I have full control over my body. If I don't feel comfortable doing something, I won't do it. I don't just try a move because it 'looks cool.' That can cause severe harm. And that's why I always stress to kids: Don't try these moves at home. I didn't just try them one day out of the blue. No. Instead, I had my brothers and my dad taking care of me, showing me the proper ways to do them, how to protect myself. You have to have someone who is a trained professional teaching you."

"You've gotta remember, we are skilled athletes and we're trained for this. We don't just decide to do things spur of the moment. We know how to do these moves."

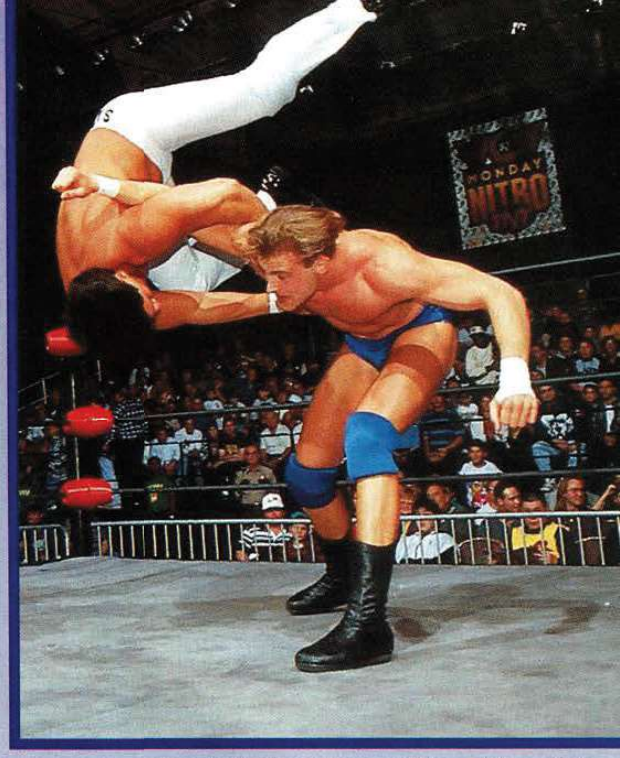


There are any number of moves that have become common-place in WCW, moves that could easily be described as 'high-risk.' Take, for instance, the Frankensteiner. Or, a Frankensteiner off the top rope. How about a moonsault. Or a German suplex. Or the dive out of the ring onto a opponent who is draped over the guard-rail.

WCW's Future Generation has perfected the sport of wrestling, brought it to a new level ... a level where danger and severe bodily harm is always within inches.

"There are any number of moves used nowadays that I cringe after I see them. In fact, I'm kind of glad I retired when I see some of them," said veteran wrestler Terry Taylor, who now works in WCW's front-office. "A smart wrestler is one who puts his opponent in danger or risk, not himself. Most of the time, that's the case. But it certainly doesn't seem to be the case all the time."

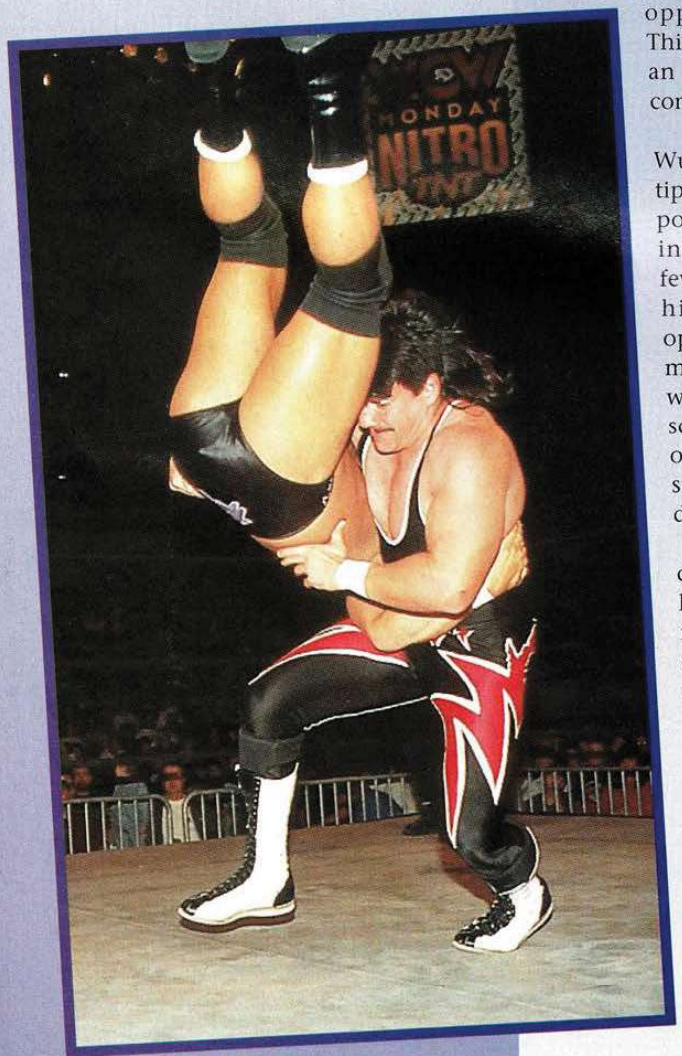
"The way I see it, these youthful wrestlers have loads of energy and will just keep doing the high-risk moves until they get severely injured, maybe blow-out a knee or something like that, then they'll put a black line through that move and move on to the next."



Guerrero says he is not scared during a 'high-risk' move — the fans' cheers carry him through.

"I'll tell you what, if I'm working out and want to practice a high-risk move, I kind of hold back," he admitted. "But, once I'm in front of the people, it's all-out. Mostly because winning is the only thing on my mind at the time. Fans love to see the flying and, well, I love to fly. It's exciting."

"The wrestling skills I have, and the simple ability I have to wrestle, I'm thankful for to the Lord, Jesus Christ. I also would like to thank WCW for giving me the opportunity to wrestle. This is a dream come true, an honor to be with this company."



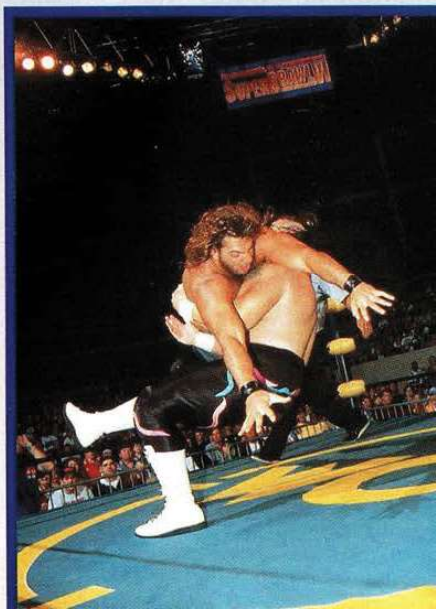
The 6-foot-4 "Das Wunderkind" Alex Wright tips the scale at about 228 pounds, so, he has been in the ring with only a few who weigh less than him. And some of his opponents can weigh as much as twice Wright's weight. But that doesn't scare him, nor stop any of his high-risk moves, such as his ever-effective drop-kick.

"I do the moves I do because I like to. I like that style. That's my specialty to get ahead, especially when it's against a bigger guy," Wright said. "Eddie and Dean are great technical wrestlers, great mat wrestlers. They also are great high-flyers. I watch their matches as much as I can because I learn a lot from each."

"I get to a certain point when I'm wrestling, although I can't say exactly where that point is, but, when I'm there, I always think twice about doing a move because, well, maybe it's just too crazy. I always think, 'Who is going to pay my bills?' if I get severely injured. So, to that, I always make sure my body is under control every second of the match."

What is too crazy? Ask Public Enemy or the Nasty Boys and the answer, no doubt, will be: nothing. The foursome of Johnny Grunge, "Flyboy" Rocco Rock, Brian Knobs and Jerry Sags are the most fearless foursome in WCW, even if they are arch-rivals. Even Men at Work, a tag team whose strategy combines mat wrestling with high-flying maneuvers have found themselves drawn into the mad matches that Public Enemy and the Nasty Boys consider the norm.

And what about Harlem Heat?



The four-time former tag team champions are still going to be around and making waves in the year 2000. Last year they took tag team wrestling to a whole new level by combining Stevie Ray's power and Booker T's innovative acrobatics, all the more amazing given his height and build. Most people consider a man of over 6 feet climbing to the top turnbuckle and performing the 360-degree Harlem Hangover more than a little crazy. But as Harlem Heat tell you, "You have to do whatever it takes to make it to the top!"

However, according to most others, too crazy is simply the time when it's hard to control your own body in the air, that you can't control how you're going to land.

"Guys like Sabu and Devon Storm are simply crazy. I wonder how much longer they will be in the sport of wrestling if they continue those moves," Wright said.

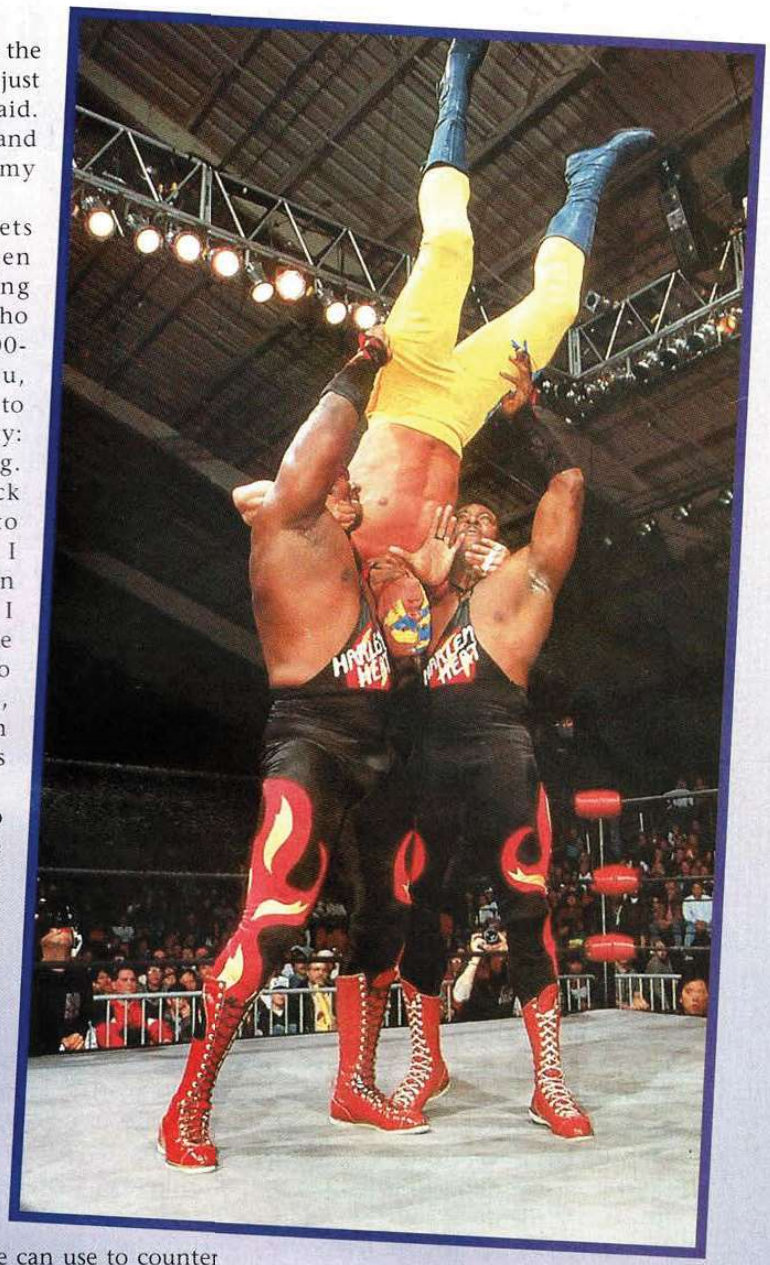
Added Taylor: "Sabu is basically maiming his body for the thrill of 300 fans. To me, that doesn't make sense. If I was still wrestling, I'd much rather be known as a wrestler with the moves of Dean Malenko, Chris Benoit, Eddie Guerrero and/or Alex Wright, especially because they're wrestling in front of thousands of appreciative fans."

Malenko prides himself on a wealth of wrestling holds. He claims to have 1,000 moves — with a counter for each. But, some argue, that number is closer to 1,200. Each and every match, it seems, Malenko displays a new move, one that certainly can be classified as high-risk.

"What I do in the ring, hey, that's just my style," he said. "It's what I do and I've done it my whole life.

"Sure, it gets difficult when you're going against a guy who has, oh, 100-pounds on you, but, I just stick to my specialty: mat wrestling. Once you knock an opponent to the mat, then I have more of an advantage. I always try to take an opponent to my strengths, not let him wrestle his match."

Malenko added: "I believe a lot of people in wrestling are brain-washed to believe that the bigger you are, the better you are. But that's definitely not always true. There are so many moves I can use, or Alex can use, or Eddie can use to counter a 'big man.'"



And they do, usually through an athletic, aerial assault.

"I don't think you have to be 6-foot-8, 295-pounds, just to be a professional wrestler," Malenko said. "And with WCW revitalizing the cruiserweight division, which I definitely think there's a need for, you're going to see some real exciting action.

"Wrestling, the way I look at it, is all about human chess: who can make the last move. Well, for guys like myself, that move is often a high-risk move. Sure, that is something different from past wrestling generations, the days of, say, Antonino Rocca and Ricky Starr. Nowadays, it seems like everyone is simply trying to out-do one another. That's why I'm always curious, as the years go by in my career, what's going to be the next 'great' move. That's what makes it interesting."

That's what makes WCW interesting.

TALKING POINT

With Tony Schiavone

The editors of WCW Magazine wanted me to rank my Top 10 singles wrestlers this month, so, without further ado, here goes in David Letterman fashion ...

No. 10: TASKMASTER KEVIN SULLIVAN

Kevin Sullivan probably is a surprise entrant among the elite singles wrestlers here in WCW, especially when you've got guys like Sgt. Craig Pittman, The Booty Man and Lord Steven Regal who don't make the cut. However, Sullivan knows the sport of wrestling like no one else. He is as dirty a player as Ric Flair, so perhaps that explains their "alliance," although that could be tinkering on extinction. Sullivan hasn't had championship gold around his waist in some time, but mainly because he's bent on destroying Hulk Hogan MORE THAN winning a title. Imagine that. Sullivan is a veteran who you can never turn your back on, not for a second.

No. 9: KONAN

Certainly one of the most successful stars from Mexico to make it in the USA, Konan has had a tremendous run as WCW U.S. Champion. To me, his first attribute is being unorthodox. Most opponents have no idea what move he is going to use next and sometimes neither does he. However, this odd style has helped him. He has a great combination of power and speed, and is a very humble man as well. Success certainly has not gone to his head. Plus, Konan is a fighting champion, one who will defend his title against anyone, anywhere.

No. 8: ARN ANDERSON

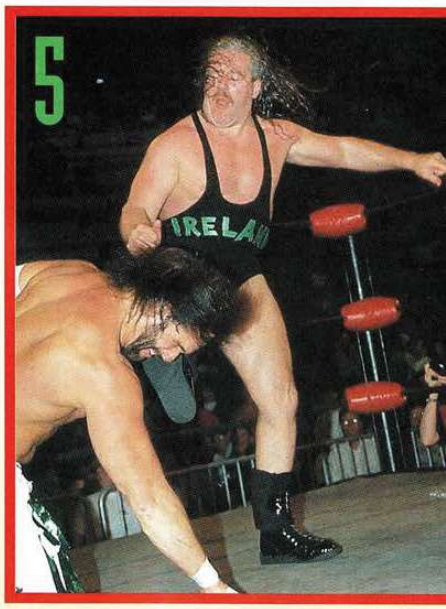
If you have read my column in the past, you certainly know Double-A is one of my personal favorites. But that isn't the reason he's among the WCW elite. Nope. Instead, it's because Arn Anderson is a ring master with unmatched ring savvy. And his endurance also ranks right up there. Arn Anderson will go down in WCW history as one of the greatest ever, regardless of my personal opinion about him. Arn is the most fundamentally-sound wrestler among my Top 10. His only drawback? His never-ending support for Ric Flair. Double-A has, on numerous occasions, sacrificed his career for Flair's. If not for that, Double-A would rank much higher.

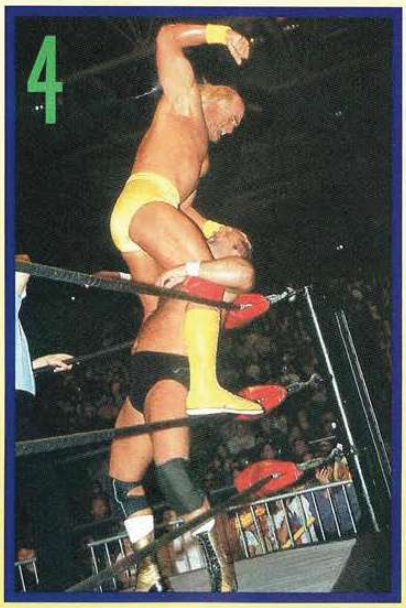
No. 7: THE GIANT

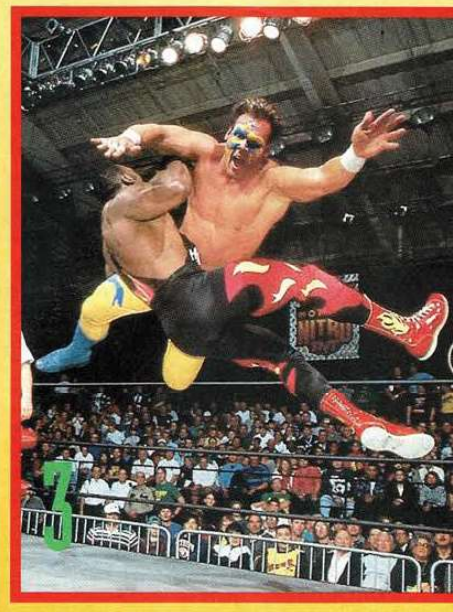
This man could, and probably should, be No. 1. But, the thing that's holding him back is Jimmy Hart. Hart claims that Hulk Hogan has never been the same, nor as successful, since the two split late last year. Hart is right ... Hogan is better! Well, the same could be said for The Giant ... if he left the Dungeon of Doom and manager Jimmy Hart. Then, and only then I believe, will The Giant be the WCW Heavyweight Champion. Hey, he's 7-foot-4, over-400 pounds ... who's going to beat him?

No. 6: LEX LUGER

This is, by far, Lex Luger's best run in WCW. His return in September of 1995 was a big surprise, and I was skeptical that he would succeed. My feeling was the competition was too stiff in WCW — and Luger would simply go "by the wayside." All that has been proven wrong. True, Luger is a free spirit. He does what he wants to do. However, that has worked in his favor. No one trusts him. Not even Sting. He is WCW's definition of a loner. When you combine his unpredictability with his overwhelming strength and talent, you have the Unique Package — not just the Total Package.







No. 5: BELFAST BRUISER DAVE "FIT" FINLAY

Surprised? Well, you wouldn't be be if you ever went into a WCW locker room. Then you'd clearly know what I mean. Since his shocking arrival in WCW — when he jumped out of the stands and back into the life of Lord Steven Regal — the Bruiser has turned quite a few heads. Not many will talk about it, but, he is the single-most avoided man in WCW. Ric Flair doesn't want to wrestle him, nor does Arn Anderson. Negotiations for a match with Hulk Hogan have been drawn out. And while "Macho Man" Randy Savage beat him in late-March on a Monday Nitro, the "Macho Man" took quite a few licks in the match. Dave "Fit" Finlay is no stranger to the ring. He has had a successful career in England and is as feared there as he is here. Given the right chance, Finlay will win a major championship in WCW, I guarantee it.

No. 4: HULK HOGAN

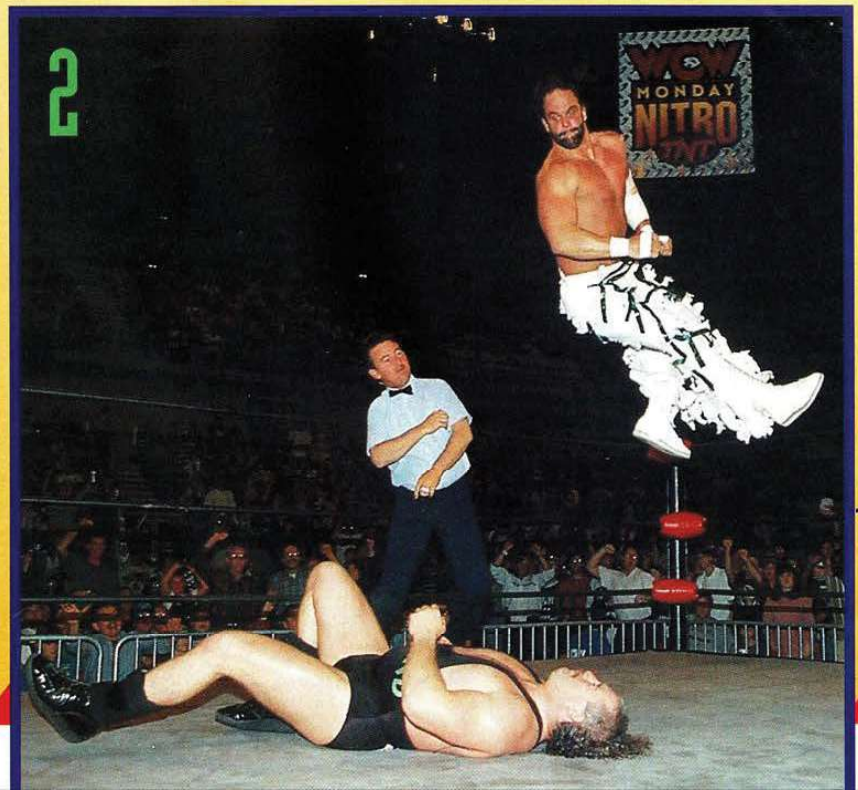
It is very difficult to only rank Hogan No. 4, but there is one main reason: he has been involved in many tag team and six-man matches of late. In other words, his focus has NOT been on the singles scene. However, he is Hulk Hogan and he still is the biggest star in our sport. Realistically, he could go without competing in a single one-on-one match for several months and still could crack the Top Five almost instantly. In fact, I predict the Hulkster will be WCW World Heavyweight Champion at some time in 1996!

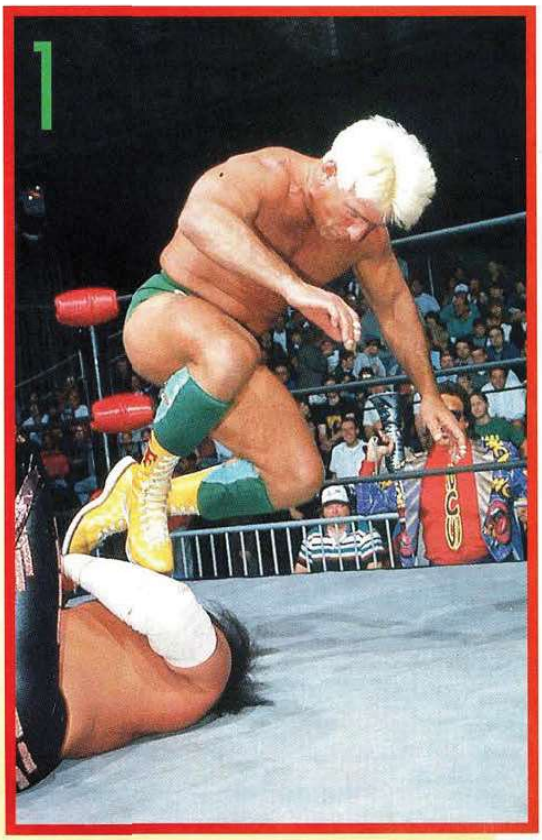
No. 3: STING

Sting was named "Wrestler of the Year" by the readers of WCW Magazine, and for good reason. He is the most courageous and determined wrestler in WCW. I think, since the arrival in WCW of Hulk Hogan and "Macho Man" Randy Savage, that he has gotten even better. You've probably heard the saying that, 'The better the competition, the better the competitor' ... well, that certainly applies to Stinger. He is a seasoned veteran, and his Scorpion Death Lock can beat anyone.

No. 2: "MACHO MAN" RANDY SAVAGE

Randy Savage could, quite easily, be ranked No. 1, if not for the recent turn of events with Miss Elizabeth, which has completely disrupted his focus. Macho is one step away from being a street-fighter. So, that sometimes works for him, but, when you're talking about going after the WCW World title, that ultimately works against you. His elbowdrop off the top turnbuckle is one of the best moves in WCW!





And, finally, the **No. 1** singles wrestler in WCW:

"NATURE BOY" RIC FLAIR

Flair has everything going for him as I write this (mid-April): the belt (his 13th title reign) and the "beauties" (Woman and The Lovely Elizabeth). Flair is performing better than ever before and that, naturally, stems from his confidence. If things are going well, he can be unbeatable, as so many foes have found out. His figure-four leg-lock is better than ever. His knee-drop is better than ever. His entourage is grander than ever. Bottom line, Ric Flair is better than ever. And he certainly deserves the No. 1 ranking.

That's it for this month. Next month I'll look at my tag team rankings here in WCW and, as crazy as that situation is, I don't know if I'll be able to limit it to the Top Ten teams, but I'll try.

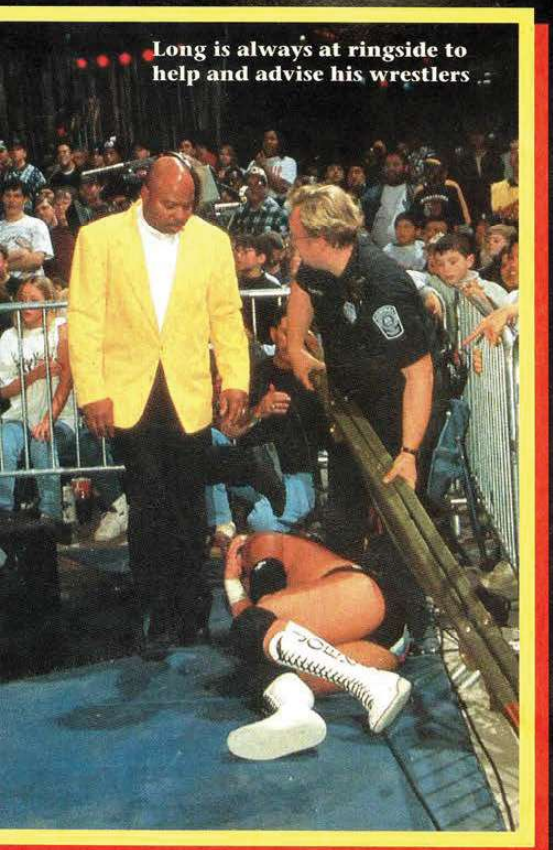
See you then.

Tony Schiavone

TEDDY LONG

The manager of champions is a champion of the people

Veteran manager Teddy Long is back in WCW, and the fans are so glad to see him back! In addition to managing Sgt. Craig Pittman and Jumping Joey Maggs, Long makes sure that WCW remains a vital part of the Atlanta community, and that community wouldn't have it any other way!



Long is always at ringside to help and advise his wrestlers

When you talk to Teddy Long these days, it's hard to believe that this man has gone through so many changes in his life.

Years ago, he was a respected referee, officiating dozens of championship bouts. Next, he became a rulebreaking manager, at first leading Dan Spivey and Sid Vicious, the Skyscrapers into prominence, then taking Doom, Ron Simmons and Butch Reed, all the way to the WCW World Tag Team title.

Then a rulebreaker, he was nonetheless named Manager of the Year by a prominent wrestling publication in 1993.

After helping Too Cold Scorpio and Marcus Alexander Bagwell to the same title, he was named Manager of the Year again in 1994. This time, the fans saw a Teddy Long who was refined and gracious, and more learned in the sport than just about anyone else.

Then, he disappeared.

Why?

"To be honest, I was out in the streets," said Long, the popular host of a bi-weekly radio show on WAOK in Atlanta. "I was talking to anyone who would listen to me. I went to the kids out there, talked about drugs, about gangs, about everything. I found that being a part of WCW could help me spread a positive message to the community. To this day, I try to do what I can to inform kids and folks who are bit down on their luck to try to do the right thing. With WCW's great help, I think we've done a lot of good."

Long's work in the Atlanta area hasn't been publicized much, but he's gotten some help from some incredible sources. He's worked with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter in some Atlanta projects, with the mayor of Atlanta Bill Campbell, with entertainers James Brown and Danny Glover, along with scores of others.

In fact, September 15, 1995 was proclaimed Teddy Long Day in Atlanta to honor this man for his many charitable causes!

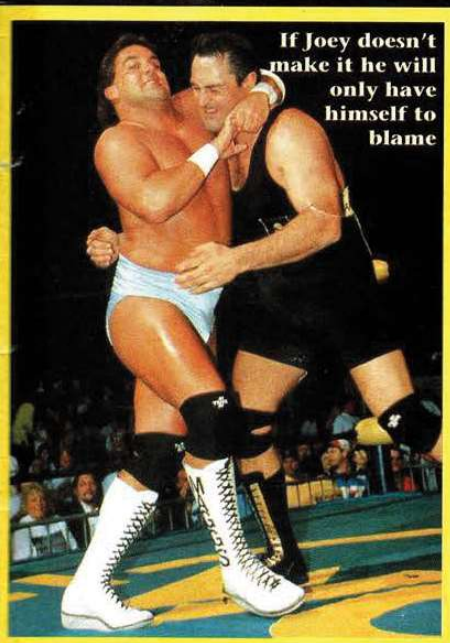
"I've even convinced Pittman to get out there with me," said Long with a smile. "You might not believe this, but this man has got a great attitude. He loves the kids, going to the Boys & Girls Clubs, and the schools. His renewed drive and confidence in these areas is going to show in the ring. He's got too much talent not to take advantage of all his skills."

The sudden relationship between Pittman and Long happened almost by accident.

It was a fact that Pittman, a great natural wrestler and multiple-time amateur champion, was stuck in a bit of a rut. Looking for guidance, he talked to Jimmy Hart, Bobby Heenan and anyone who would listen as he looking for a manager, but he was turned down each time.

It was during a match between V.K. Wallstreet and Long's other protege Joey Maggs on WCW Saturday Night that fate took a hand. There was already friction between Wallstreet and Pittman, and when Wallstreet's associate Big Bubba started mauling the popular youngster , he could stand by no longer. He charged that ring

Pittman is great wrestler, who welcomes advice



If Joey doesn't make it he will only have himself to blame

and saved Maggs and Long from a beating.

After the bout, Pittman said, "It was under my nose all along! Would you manage me, Teddy?"

"I couldn't just say yes to a guy who had been a rulebreaker," recalled Long, "but Pittman did in fact, save Maggs and I from a terrible beating. But now, after working with Craig, I'd have to say it's been great. Everyone who sees him thinks this man is going to be a champion, and I agree. He just needed to get his mind together a little bit."

Long knows wrestling talent when he sees it, so it was more than a bit of a shock when he announced that he was managing Maggs, a man who was practically 0-for-his entire WCW wrestling career! Long could see something in Maggs that the rest of the mat world apparently couldn't.

"I picked him!" Long said proudly. "I said, let me try and teach this guy! He has been around for nine years, but I never saw him win one match. With that kind of experience, though, I knew he could be good. He's coming along, but naturally, it's been a slow process. He's got lots of talent, but it's going to take a while in this case. I won't give up on him. He must listen to what I and others around him have to say. If this experiment doesn't work, it won't me my fault, it will be Joey Maggs' fault."

Thus far, Maggs has been competing with a determination he's never shown before in WCW rings. He's even teamed with Pittman from time to time to take on Wallstreet and Bubba, and the results have been startling. It seems clear that Long has both Maggs and Pittman on the right path, and that's coming from a man who wasn't always walking the straight and narrow when it came to his own ring tactics.

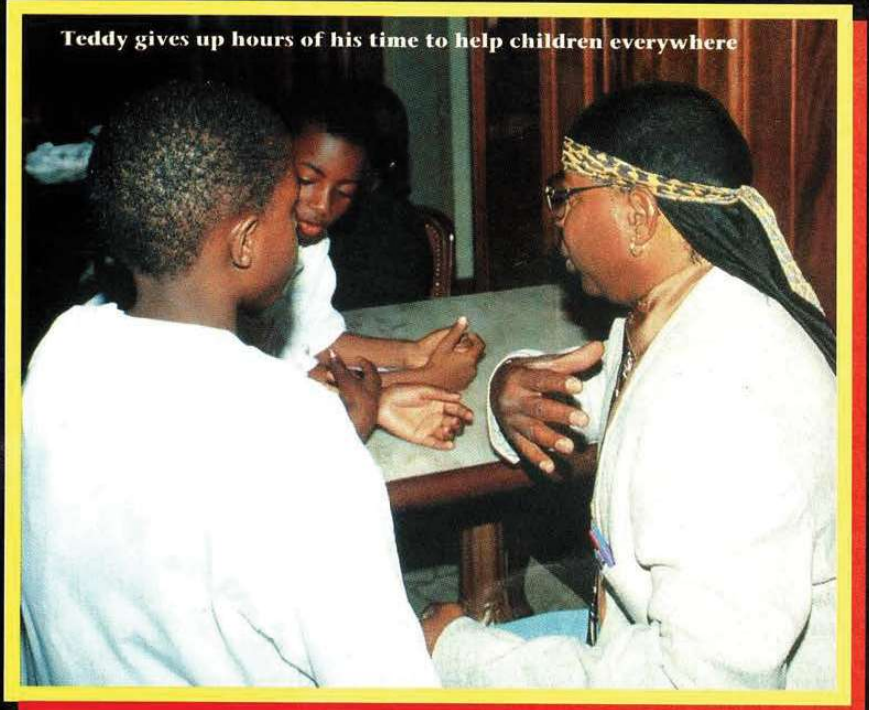
"In the old days, I didn't know any better," Long said. "Success happened so fast when I left refereeing and became a manager. I thought there just wasn't any other way of doing things."

"When I went to the arenas, though, I always signed autographs. I just couldn't refuse the kids. I was amazed. I thought to myself, there's got to be a lot to these WCW fans, and the more I checked, the more I realized I wanted to be a part of them ... to help them. On the streets things were out of hand. Gangs, crack, all that stuff. In a way, I'm glad things worked out the way they did. I used to be on the negative side myself, so it gave credibility to where I was coming from."

If there's anything Long has these days, it's credibility. He's an asset to Pittman and Maggs, an asset to WCW, and an asset to his community.

Can any other manager attain the high standard that Teddy Long has set?

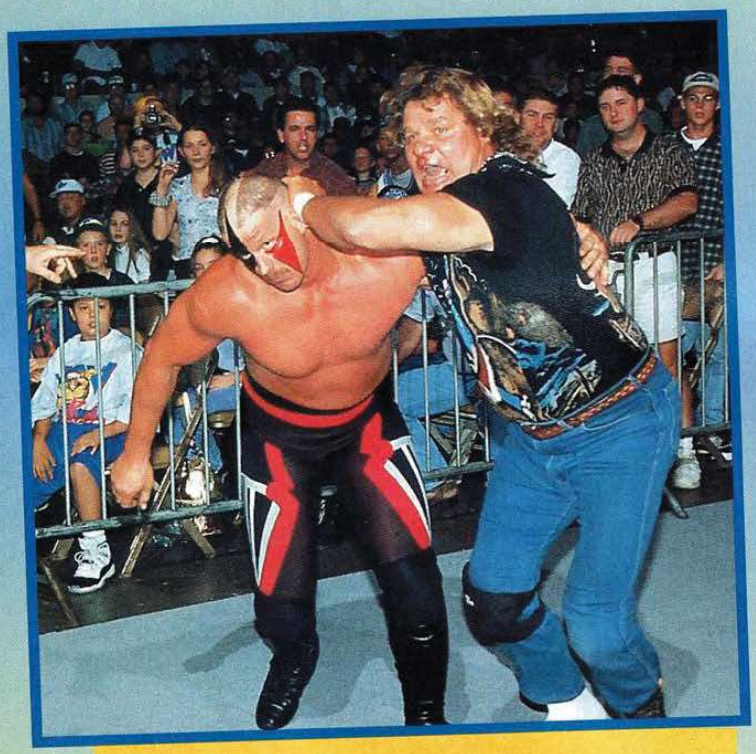
We sure hope they try to!

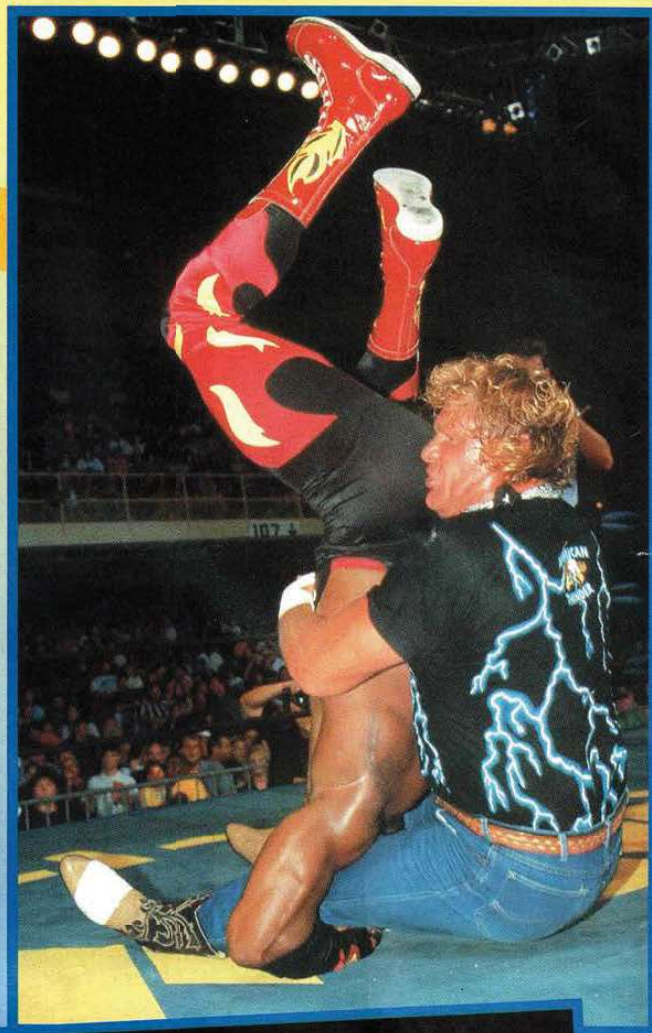


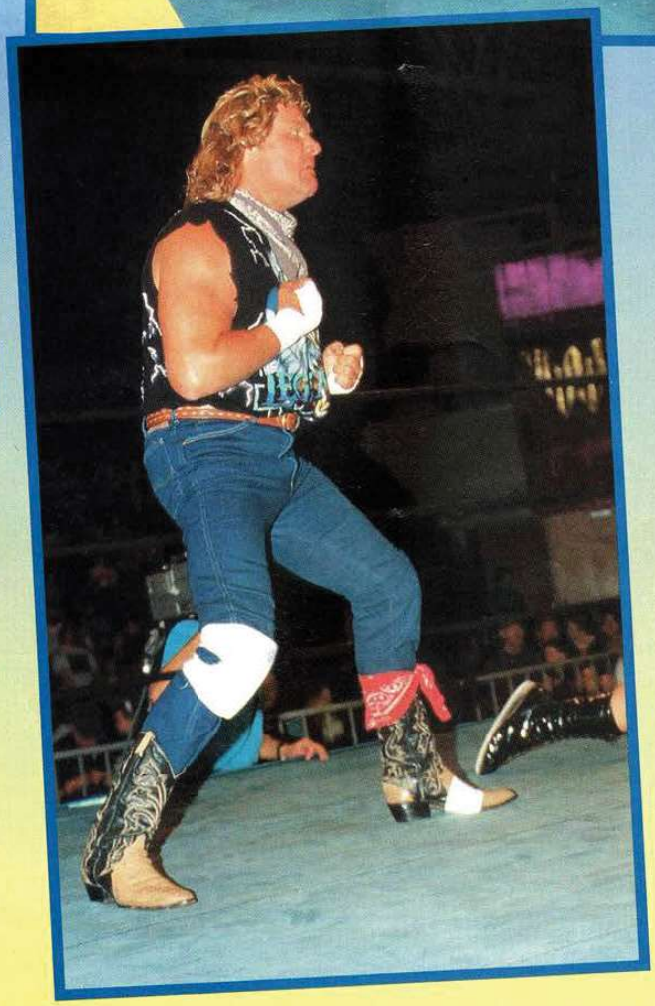
Teddy gives up hours of his time to help children everywhere

EXPERT ASSESSMENT

In this exclusive WCW Magazine feature, four of World Championship Wrestling's most knowledgeable personalities take an up-close-and-personal look at current WCW Superstars.
These aren't comments you'll hear at the arenas or on TV-these are the true beliefs of the biggest and most provocative mindsets in the sport today!

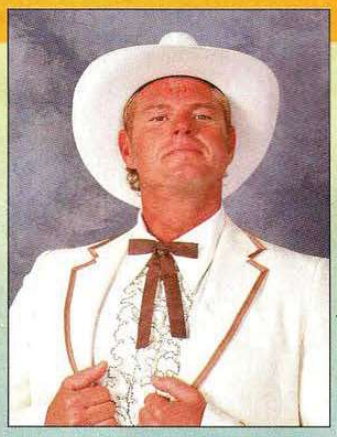






Height: 6' 1"
Weight: 240lbs
Hometown: Tampa, FL
Birthdate: May 19
Previous WCW titles held:
World Tag Team Champion 7/95 with Bunkhouse Buck; defeated Harlem Heat
United States Champion 12/83; defeated Greg Valentine
US Tag Team Champion 6/92 with the Barbarian; defeated Fabulous Freebirds

DIRTY DICK SLATER



"Hey, now, sonny, if Mr. Dick Slater wasn't a world-class, world-championship contender, do you think that a man of my vast means would have anything at all to do with him? Slater is and has been the crown jewel of all my talent acquisitions. He's got more experience than any five guys I can think of, and

Colonel Robert Parker

when he and Bunkhouse Buck won the WCW World Tag Team Championship, we proved all the skeptics wrong. Did you see him take none other than the World Heavyweight Champion, Mr. Ric Flair, to the limit on WCW Saturday Night recently? I do believe that if I can get just one more title opportunity, there will be a grizzled veteran named Dirty Dick Slater leading WCW, and I'll be right with him every step of the way!"

Col. Robert Parker is the self-proclaimed greatest showman in the world. He has several top WCW wrestlers under his guidance.

"I have to have a lot of respect for Dick Slater, if you will. Way back in the '70s, he and I wrestled each other a lot in Florida and other states down around here. I would have to rank my scuffles with Slater as one of the 10 greatest feuds I've ever had. He was mean, talented, and determined, and he sure hasn't changed a whole lot. I find it just short of amazing that this

Dusty Rhodes

guy has been this good for this long. To be honest, I don't know why a wrestler of this magnitude needs a guy like Col. Parker around, but I guess you'll have to ask him to get the answer to that question. Mean and ornery, smart and savvy, tough as nails, that's Dicky Slater."

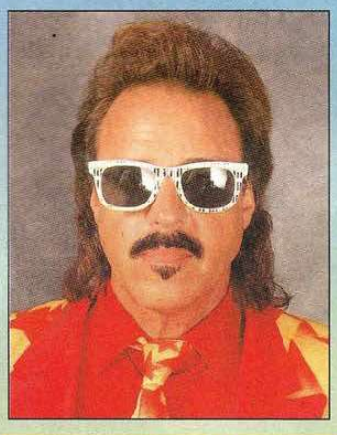
Dusty Rhodes, "The American Dream," is one of the most popular wrestlers of all time. During his incredible career he has managed to win the NWA World Heavyweight Championship on three different occasions.

"What do you know! Here in WCW, is a bad to the bone, 100 percent, all-man, all-American, real live WRESTLER! Mr. Slater continues to be a top contender long after his contemporaries have fallen by the wayside, and it's a very great thing to watch. He's proof, like I was two years ago when I came out of retirement to win the WCW Television title, that

Larry Zbyszko

age doesn't mean a thing when it comes to being a great wrestler. I have no doubt that Slater could win any championship in WCW if he set his mind to it. He's got a great manager in Col. Parker, too. Lately, he's been wrestling solo, and he looks as good as ever. He's like that famous rabbit on the battery commercials: He keeps going and going and going ..."

"Living Legend" Larry Zbyszko is regarded as one of the greatest wrestlers in history. He is currently the co-host of WCW Pro on TBS Superstation.



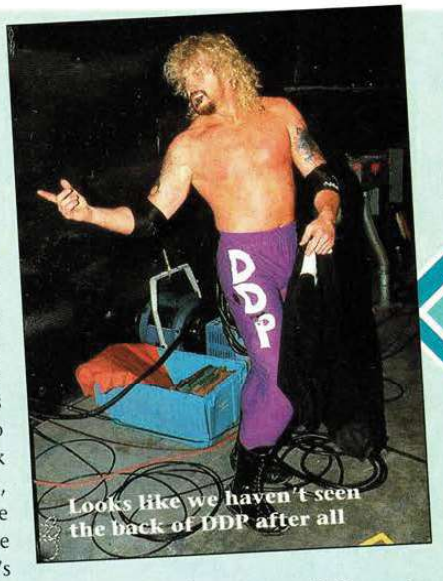
"You'd have expected a veteran like Dirty Dick to hang up his boots years ago, but he's timeless. Know why? I bet none of the other so-called experts came up with this one. As you know, I help the Giant with his training. Slater uses the same gyms as we do so sometimes when we are on the road, I can watch him

Jimmy Hart

close up as he prepares for his matches. Slater is amazing! Even the younger guys can't keep up with his training regimen. He's got a perfect wrestler's physique, not too bulky, yet powerful and resilient. Slater is a legend and a future hall-of-famer even if a lot of the fans out there are too ignorant to realize it. He's had more great matches than most fans have even watched!"

Jimmy Hart is arguably the greatest manager in the history of the sport. His current charges include The Giant, The Taskmaster and the Faces of Fear.

DIAMOND DALLAS PAGE



Looks like we haven't seen the back of DDP after all

BACK ON CLOUD NINE

Frank Machuga has become the B.M.O.C. at Tech. Of course, that's Big Man On Campus. He's a hit among the co-eds, his peers and even the faculty. He appears several times a week in the student newspaper and is constantly asked to sign autographs. Frank has, quite simply, become a cult-like superhero, as has the hand-held camera he's used for his thesis on "People of the Street."

And all of Machuga's glory comes at Diamond Dallas Page's expense.

Machuga, a 20-something student, first hit the scene in WCW on the Easter Sunday telecast of WCW Main Event. Machuga's uncut, unedited clip showed a lonely street person — with a striking resemblance to DDP — holding a sign that read: I need a drink and that's the truth.

Machuga sent the video tape to WCW's Atlanta headquarters in hopes that a high-ranking executive would buy the tape, if only because he had to recoup some of his expenses after the street person broke his camera when Machuga asked if he was in fact DDP.

Plus, Machuga stressed, there were several "tabloids" interested in purchasing the video for "large sums of money." Machuga, a lifelong WCW fan, simply wanted his tape to air on WCW shows — not go the tabloid route.

Machuga's video antics continued throughout April and, yes, they proved to feature DDP some more. Consider some of the actions caught on tape:

- DDP is searching a garbage can, then selling his findings — four rodeo tickets — to some poor, unsuspecting gentleman. The tickets, valued at $20 apiece, went for only $10 ... but were from the night before; DDP had covered the date. And, by the time the error was discovered, DDP was no where to be found.
- DDP is spotted squeegee in-hand, approaching motorists to wash their windows. Despite the fact no one wants his services, especially since it was raining, DDP starts cleaning the windows of almost every car he could. Including one car with two middle-aged men inside that, moments after he started washing, recognize him as the former WCW grappler. When he finishes washing, DDP demands $5 — to their amazement. They refuse to pay and DDP turns violent, grabbing the driver by the shirt and pulling him out of the car.

Luckily for all parties involved in this fracas, the police scare away DDP ... but not before the pair give him $20 in fear for their life.

- DDP is seen getting into a limousine after it pulls up to his favorite street corner, the same spot where, weeks earlier, he held a sign looking for a free drink. Machuga runs after the limo, but is unable to see who is inside or the license plate.

WCW Magazine tried to contact Machuga, but his campus phone had been disconnected.

Meanwhile, DDP's actions were just as amazing when May began.

First, DDP's "benefactor" — we have been unable to learn his/her name as of press time — hired a New York-based law firm to investigate the contract from DDP's Uncensored match against The Booty Man. And, shortly thereafter, a $15 million lawsuit was filed against WCW. The lawsuit claims DDP had been erroneously ousted from WCW action. It further states that DDP requested a match for the WCW TV title, and agreed to an "I Quit match." But, since the Uncensored match was NOT for the title, he is not forced to quit.

We contacted WCW Commissioner Nick Bockwinkel concerning DDP, but were told that the Commish was "on vacation."

DDP's present look in WCW is no simple spring-time make-over. He is a changed man, a man of pride, dignity and respect. He's a man on a mission, a man of destiny. And all credit goes to the "person" in the White Glove. (We at WCW Magazine are trying every trick in the book to learn who is wearing the gloves, but, as of press time, have been unsuccessful.)

The new-look DDP has been treated to — courtesy of "White Glove" — bubble baths in picturesque settings, massages, manicures and pedicures, among other royal treatments. DDP also is now sporting an outfit that could best be described as a Pulp Fiction, rockish, Los Angeles-look. He is fresh out of "GQ," with his lizard-skin boots, custom-made silk pants, Versace shirts and vests, and Revo sunglasses. DDP's 18-carat gold jewelry is classy. No more of the gaudy gold we had become accustomed to. And DDP's cheesy cigars of the past are now replaced by top-of-the-line brands, cigars that Fidel Castro would be proud to smoke.

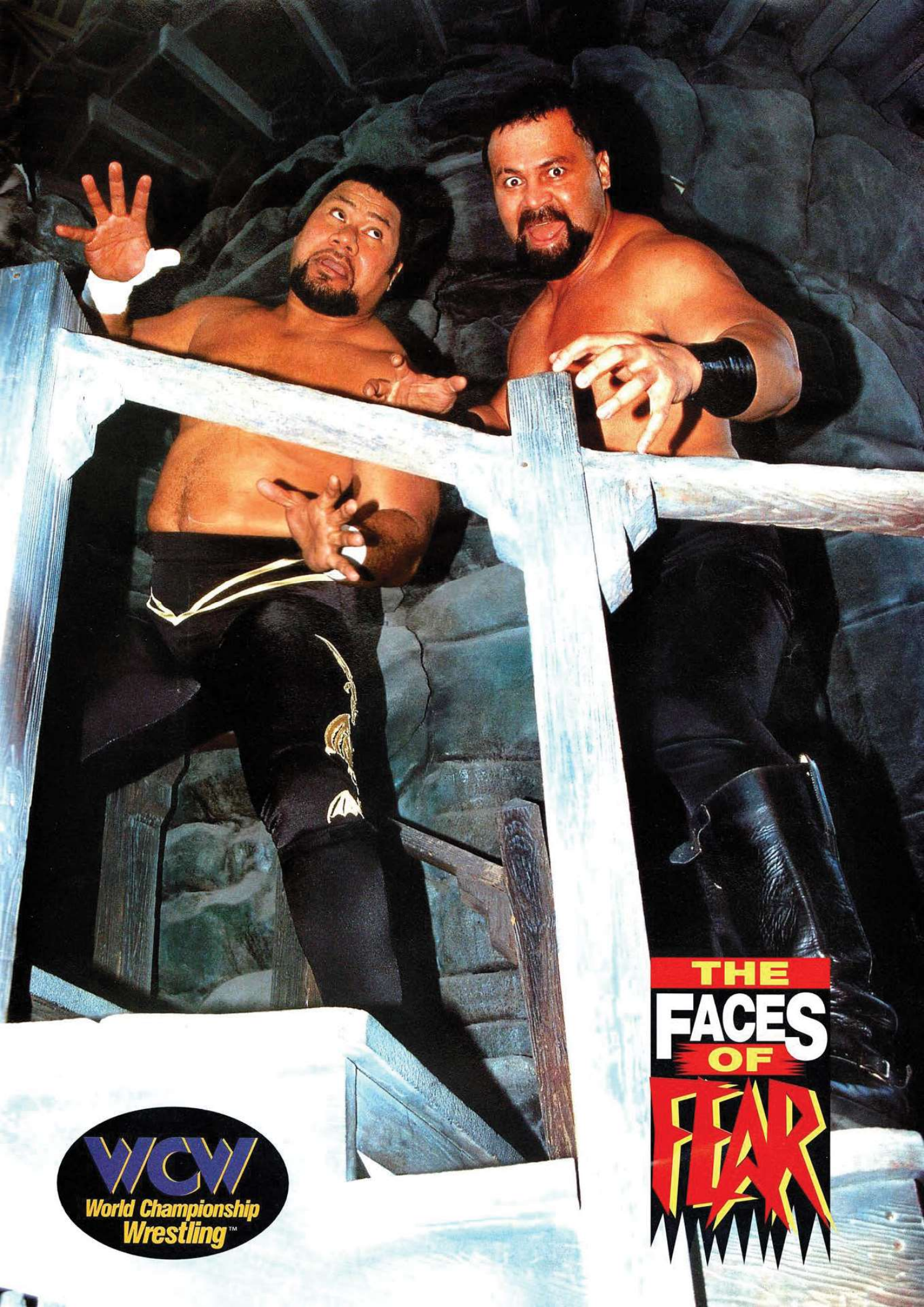
So who is the new DDP? More important, who is his benefactor?

Is it a he or a she? Have we seen this person in WCW before, perhaps under a different alias? Or is it a WCW newcomer?

DDP appears to appreciate everything he has nowadays, but for how long?

Regardless, DDP is an accomplished, veteran wrestler with renewed vigor in his career. DDP has held gold before and, it appears, is well on the way to returning to championship status.

DDP had hit rock-bottom, but is now within inches of Cloud Nine. WCW had best beware!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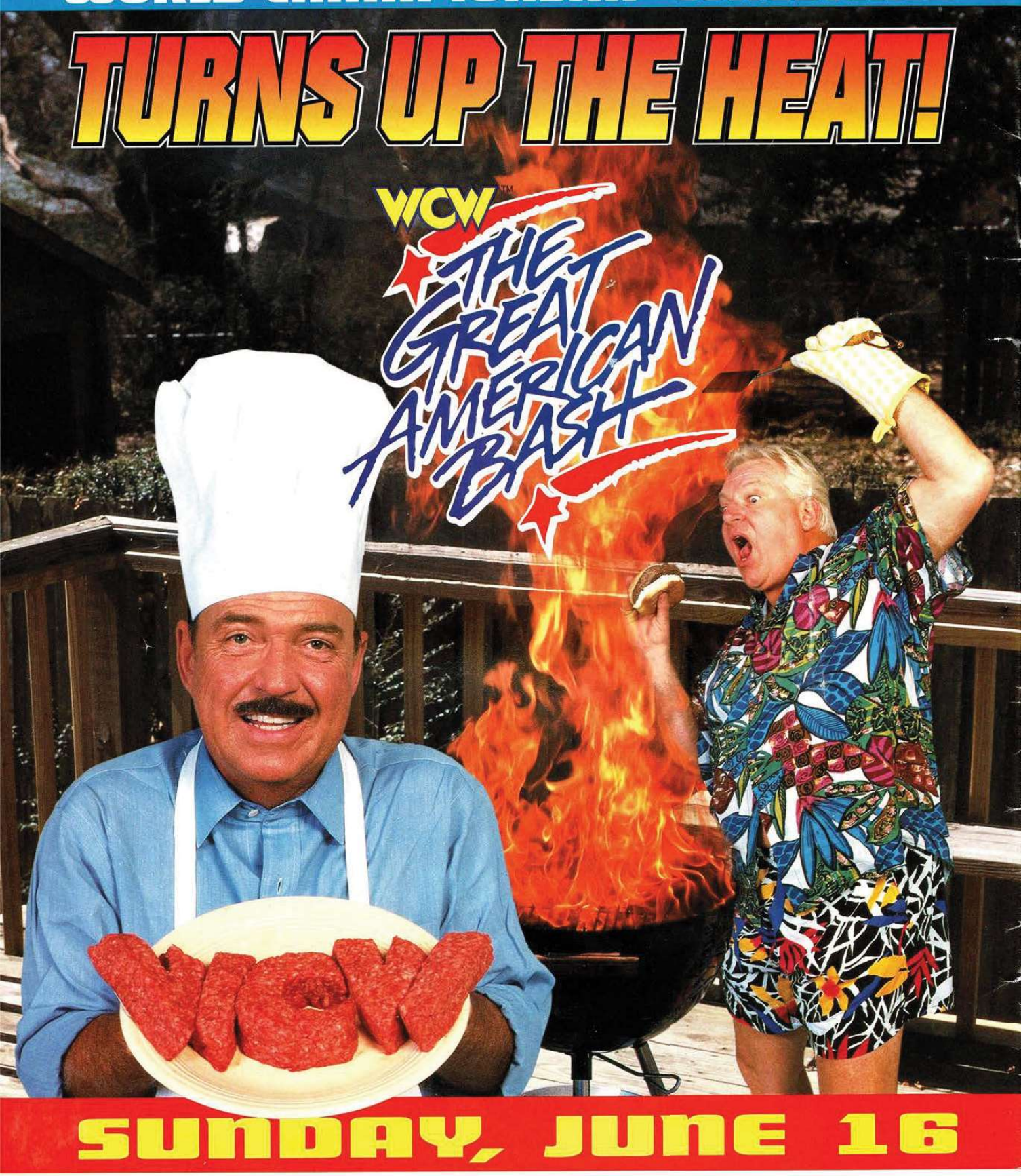

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